

# THE LITERARY GAZETTE

AND  
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No. 1968.

LONDON, SATURDAY, OCTOBER 7, 1854.

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## MINERALOGY. — KING'S COLLEGE.

LONDON.—Professor Tennant, F.G.S., has commenced a Course of Lectures on Mineralogy, with a view to facilitate the study of Geology, and of the Application of Mineral Substances in the Arts. The Lectures illustrated by an extensive Collection of Specimens, commenced yesterday, FRIDAY, OCTOBER 6th, at Nine o'clock, a.m. They will be continued on each succeeding Wednesday and Friday, at the same hour.  
R. W. JELF, D.D., Principal.

PATRON.—H.R.H. PRINCE ALBERT.

## ROYAL POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTION.

Mr. PEPPER, the Resident Director, begs leave to announce that the WHOLE of the RECEIPTS of the INSTITUTION on the EVENING of THURSDAY, the 12th instant, will be handed over to the proposed PATRIOTIC FUND for the BENEFIT of the WIDOWS and ORPHANS of the BRAVE MEN now FIGHTING the BATTLES of their COUNTRY.  
An INTRODUCTORY LECTURE to a COURSE on PHYSIOLOGY as connected with HEALTH, by Dr. CARPENTER, F.R.S., &c., on Monday Evening, the 9th instant, at Eight o'clock.  
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On and after MONDAY, the 9th instant, the Institution will be open at Twelve o'clock.

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LONDON, SATURDAY, OCTOBER 7, 1854.

## REVIEWS.

*The Autobiography of the Rev. William Jay, with Reminiscences of some Distinguished Contemporaries, and Selections from his Correspondence.* Edited by George Redford, D.D., and John Angell James. Hamilton, Adams, and Co.

THE name of William Jay is well known to all who have visited Bath during the first half of this century. For the long period of sixty years he was pastor of a church, which though nominally belonging to the Independents, included among its regular worshippers Churchmen as well as Dissenters, and was a place of resort for devout Christians of all denominations. He was no ordinary man who could attract to his ministry learning and genius, rank and wealth, as well as worth and piety. John Foster said of him, that he was "the prince of preachers." Wilberforce delighted in his society, and affectionately spoke of him as 'dear Jay.' Even those who made no profession of deep religious feeling were constrained to do homage to the earnestness and devotedness of the minister of Argyll Chapel. Beckford, the author of 'Vathek,' said he was "one of the finest preachers he had ever heard," and compared his mind to "a clear transparent spring, flowing so freely as to impress the idea of its being inexhaustible." Yet there was nothing brilliant in his rhetoric, or striking in his oratory. The charm and power of his preaching lay in the plain, sensible, and earnest statement and enforcement of sacred truths, which the speaker deeply felt and strove to impress on his hearers. In his pulpit ministrations, as in his published works, an easy naturalness was the chief characteristic of his style. And great was the divine blessing which accompanied his abundant and single-hearted labours. Multitudes have ascribed to his instrumentality the origin of their religious impressions, and their growth in piety and virtue. It was well that the work of such a man should not pass away unrecorded, and that a memoir should appear for the purpose of perpetuating the memory of so much excellence, usefulness, and wisdom.

The performance of this labour of love has been undertaken by two of the ablest and most respected ministers of the denomination to which Mr. Jay belonged. Their work has been chiefly editorial, the bulk of the volume consisting of autobiographical notices, and selections from Mr. Jay's correspondence. It appears that Mr. Jay, late in life, at the request of his family and friends, began to write an account of the leading incidents of his life and his ministry. This was done in the form of letters to his children. It is to be regretted that no regular journal or diary had been kept throughout his life. The information contained in these autobiographical reminiscences is somewhat fragmentary, and on some subjects and periods very meagre. At the age of seventy-four, when the task was commenced, many points, which once might be deemed of importance, were forgotten, and others were but slightly touched upon. The editors, in accordance with the wishes of Mr. Jay's family and executors, have published the manuscripts precisely as they were left, adding, in an appendix to the autobiography, such facts as might serve to connect and complete the narrative. A sufficiently distinct and detailed account is thus

presented of Mr. Jay's private life and ministerial career. He was the son of humble parents near Bath. In his early years he worked along with his father as a stone-cutter, and assisted in building Mr. Beckford's mansion, Fonthill Abbey. A worthy retired merchant, Mr. Turner, at that time had opened a chapel at the village of Tisbury, for the preaching of the gospel. Young Jay used to frequent this place of worship, and his intelligence and earnestness attracted the notice of Mr. and Mrs. Turner. By them he was introduced to the Rev. Cornelius Winter, who at Marlborough had 'a school of the prophets,' where some ministers, afterwards highly distinguished, were trained for the ministry. Mr. Winter at once invited Jay to his academy, the funds for the maintenance and education of the students being supplied by various Christian laymen, among whom the chief was the princely philanthropist, John Thornton, whose memory lives in the poetry and the letters of Cowper. The young student made rapid progress in his studies, literary, classical, and professional. He was also early initiated into the practical duties and functions of the ministry, being sent into the neighbouring villages on Sundays to preach and teach the people, who at that time were too much neglected by the national Church. At the age of sixteen, Mr. Jay officiated as a boy preacher. This unseemly irregularity he in after life spoke of not with regret, but with apology, arising out of the peculiar circumstances of the time. The manner of his removal to more regular duty is thus narrated in one of his letters:—

"As I was now leaving Mr. Winter, after too short and imperfect a course of preparation, I came in contact with the Rev. Rowland Hill, who, with the permission and approbation of my tutor, engaged me for a season to go to London, to supply Surrey Chapel. This was indeed a formidable engagement, but I was carried through it far beyond my expectations. The place, though so large, was soon crowded to excess; and when I preached my last sermon, the yard before the dwelling-house was filled with the lingering multitude, who would not disperse till I had bidden them farewell from the window.

"This visit to London was, with regard to myself, a very important and influential event. It gave me an enlarged publicity. It led to a friendship between Mr. Hill and myself which continued till his death. It involved me in an engagement to supply Surrey Chapel for a number of Sabbaths annually. It brought me into a very intimate intercourse with, and subserviency to, that extraordinary character, the Rev. John Ryland, of Northampton, the father of the late Dr. Ryland, of Bristol. It placed me under the notice, and gave me a share in the affection, of that most estimable man of God, the Rev. John Newton, rector of St. Mary's Woolnoth; and it also laid the foundation of my acquaintance with, and admiration of, your entirely beloved and esteemed mother.

"Before I left town I received applications to settle; but owing to my youth, and being anxious before I became a pastor to secure more preparation for the office, I declined them all, and retired to Christian Malford, near Chippenham. This was a small, but to me an interesting village, as I had often preached there while a student, and as here Mr. Winter himself for some time had resided, and laboured in his earlier ministry, as may be seen in his memoirs. My salary was to be 35*l.* a year; but my wants were few, and a considerable tradesman (who had married Mr. Winter's niece) promised to board me gratuitously. Here I was rich compared with the prophet in the house of the Shunammite, who had only 'a little chamber on the wall, and a bed, and a table, and a stool, and a candlestick.' I was therefore as to accommodation

and provision perfectly satisfied, and free from all worldly care.

"Here (it was much my wish in going there) I hoped to find abstraction, and to pursue my improvement. But my design and expectation failed me in no small degree. My own stock of books was very scanty, and there was no public library to which I could have access. My purse did not allow me to buy, and there was no one from whom I could borrow. I had also become previously too well known in most of our neighbouring congregations to be left unsolicited when they had a lack of service. I was, therefore, urged constantly to preach abroad, and I had not the courage and firmness which time gives one, to say 'No,' to importunity; for, as Mr. Cecil remarks, 'A minister should never be to be had.'"

We do not intend to trace here the story of Mr. Jay's life, and therefore merely mention that he was settled in Bath, having married the year previously, in 1789, and there continued to labour until his death in 1853, at the age of eighty-four. To the memoir we must refer for notices of the events which occurred during this long incumbency. We quote from the closing chapter by the editors, the following general estimate of Mr. Jay's pulpit ministrations and professional gifts:—

"A preacher who, from his first appearance in the pulpit, at the age of sixteen, till he retired from it when eighty-four years old, fixed and held the attention of the public; who during this lengthened period was heard with equal interest by the aged and the young, the learned and the illiterate, who always crowded, whenever he presented himself, to listen to his teaching; who was eulogized by such men as Wilberforce, Beckford, and Sir William Knight; by Hall, Chalmers, and Foster; who, whether he preached in the city or in the village, drew after him his ministerial brethren, both of his own church and most others; who was esteemed and admired by all denominations of professing Christians; and who, when his sermons were sent forth from the press, raised for himself in both hemispheres, a reputation such as few of his own day, or any other, ever obtained,—must have possessed elements of power, after which it is worth while to inquire, not only for the purpose of gratifying curiosity, but to prompt and guide the spirit of lawful emulation. Such a preacher was Mr. Jay; and it is the object of this Sketch to show in what his attractions principally consisted, and to what he owed his extensive and permanent popularity.

"Mr. Jay as a preacher owed not a little to his personal appearance, and undoubtedly much to his voice. In the earlier periods of his history, his countenance was eminently prepossessing. The Portrait affixed to this volume, copied from a painting taken when he was about forty-nine years of age, and which was considered a good likeness at the time, proves this. His black hair, dark eyes, florid complexion, and an expression of features in which intelligence and benevolence, mingled with somewhat of archness, at once attracted and interested his hearers. As he advanced in years, he became much stouter, which, as he was never tall, destroyed in some measure the symmetry of his frame. A graphic writer thus describes his appearance in the decline of life:—

"It is not very long since," says Dr. James Hamilton, "we heard him with wonder and delight, and in our own as well as in millions of memories is still depicted that countenance whose sunshine furnished its own photograph: so wise and so witty, so wrinkled yet so radiant; with so much of youthful ardour welling up in the fountains of those deeply fringed, softly burning eyes; and with words so holy and so tender dropping from those lips in whose corners lurked all that was quaint or caustic; whilst like an oak-thicket on an old rampart-summit, that strong visage and firm brow rose and were lost in the shaggy wilderness which covered all with its coppy crown."

"Mr. Jay's voice was certainly one of the

charms of his preaching. It was sonorous but not loud—alternating between bass and tenor; strong yet soft; musical and flexible; and more adapted to give expression to what is tender, pathetic, and solemn, than to what is lively, impetuous, and impulsive. If it did not stir you as with the blast of a trumpet, it soothed and delighted you, as with the soft tones of a flute. This indeed was the general character of his preaching, in which the manner was suited to the matter. You sat in sweet stillness, luxuriating under those beautiful trains of quiet thinking, and gentle, holy, and evangelic emotion, uttered in tones so mellifluous, that you seemed to be listening to music which came from another world, and which lifted your soul to the sphere from which it emanated. An involuntary, unbidden tear occasionally suffused your eye, and a gentle emotion filled your heart, as some touching passage, in plaintive sounds, swelling like those of an Eolian harp, passed over your spirit, and moved it, just as a summer's breeze ruffles the surface of a lake, without deeply or violently disturbing it.

"He entered the pulpit in a grave, collected manner, apparently absorbed in his mission, and with a step rather quick, yet solemn, and without hurry; and after sometimes casting a glance round upon the audience, retired into himself, and seemed to be gathering up his thoughts and energies to negotiate between God and man the weighty affairs of judgment and of mercy.

"In the preliminary exercises of public worship, reading the Scriptures and prayer, Mr. Jay never forgot that, in one of these, he was enunciating the words of the Most High; and in the other, that he was addressing himself to Him before whom the seraphim veil their faces. It has been sometimes thought and said that very little spiritual, or at any rate saving effect, is produced by the public reading of the Scriptures. Is not this to be traced up to the careless, unimpressive, irreverent, and unfeeling manner in which the exercise is performed. The tones, emphasis, and accents of a good reader, who is neither elaborate, artificial, nor theatrical in his manner, convey both instruction and impression, and are a kind of exposition of the sacred text.

"In prayer Mr. Jay was often singularly felicitous in his expressions, and always devout in his manner; his devotions were richly scriptural and strictly appropriate; perhaps occasionally a little too quaint in expression, and, therefore, liable to interfere with perfect composure and gravity. He was slow and solemn in his utterance, and his feelings were so far under control as never to hurry him into that rapidity and vociferation which, we regret to say, characterise those addresses to the Almighty which are made from some Nonconforming pulpits. If reform be necessary in the liturgical services of the Church of England, it is equally necessary in the extempore ones of some among the Dissenters. Occasionally there is too much of preaching in prayer; too much of theology; too little of petition and confession. There is a happy medium between that elaboration which, by its artificialness, represses religious feeling, and that negligence which disgusts good taste: between that muttering and trembling which betoken slavish dread, and the loud or even boisterous manner which indicates want of feeling and displays unhalloved familiarity. We do not wonder that Church-people of refinement who occasionally attend Dissenting worship, complain of a want of solemnity and devout feeling in some of our public prayers: yet were extempore prayer performed as it should be, they would retire with a conviction of its superior appropriateness, earnestness, and adaptation to the various classes of the congregation, and the changeable experience of the Christian heart.

"In the selection of his texts, Mr. Jay was often very ingenious. His extraordinary acquaintance with his Bible gave him great advantage in this. His hearers were often surprised by a passage which was so novel to them, that they did not know there was such a verse in the Scriptures. His canon was, that to secure and hold attention, to produce impression and do good, the preaching

must be something that will '*strike and stick*.' Perhaps, in carrying out this, he sometimes erred on the side of quaintness, both in the selection of texts and in his illustrations. Yet a quaint text, if one may thus characterize any portion of God's word, if it contain an important lesson, and if it be fairly dealt with, and be not by an ingenious fancy tortured upon the rack, to extort from it a meaning which it would not otherwise acknowledge, tends to secure attention and enliven the preaching. But this must not be done too often, or it will lose its effect, and subject the preacher to the imputation of being a pulpit-jester.

"Mr. Jay's introductions to his sermons were sometimes as striking as his texts. We remember once hearing him, when preaching on Pilate's question put to Jesus Christ, — 'What is truth?' — commence his sermon thus: 'It is a truth, Pilate, that thou art a cowardly guilty wretch, in surrendering Christ to be crucified, when thou wert convinced he was an innocent man.' This *ex abrupto* method of introduction is, however, a hazardous one, since it is somewhat difficult to keep up the attention to that altitude which it has reached by such an exordium. It is like spicing the first dish at a feast so highly as to render all that follow in some measure insipid.

"The prevailing character of Mr. Jay's sermons, considered as to their matter, was the mixture of evangelical doctrine, experimental feeling and Christian practice. His memoirs mention the fact, that on his first visit to London he had the character of several ministers described to him: one as a doctrinal, a second as a practical, and a third as an experimental preacher. With the good sense, tact and discrimination belonging to him, he said to himself, 'I will be neither exclusively, but all unitedly.' So he was. His evangelism, so far as doctrine was concerned, was never very prominent, as a thing separate and by itself, in the form of a dogmatic statement, with proofs from Scripture and controversial arguments, but was held in solution in his general course of preaching. To borrow an illustration from his reminiscence of Mr. Newton, that good man, in speaking of his own Calvinism, said it was in his preaching, as sugar in a cup of tea, that which sweetened the whole, but which is not to be taken in the lump.

"By some persons Mr. Jay has been thought a little deficient in not giving greater prominence to the chief truths of salvation in their dogmatic form. He acknowledged he was so in early life; but it may be satisfactorily explained without impeaching his Evangelism. When setting out in his ministry he saw the errors into which many of the newly-formed evangelical school in the Church of England ran, in dwelling too abstractedly and exclusively upon dogmatic theology, and the bad effect it had in some instances upon their conduct; — and in avoiding this extreme he, partially and for a time, inclined to another. He was in sentiment, however, decidedly evangelical, and also in his preaching, but not formally and controversially doctrinal. It was his evangelism which constituted no small share of the attraction of his preaching. His confession of faith, if such it may be called, delivered at his ordination, though drawn up when only twenty-one years of age, is one of the most complete and beautiful compends of evangelical truth in the English language.

"He was, to a very great extent, an experimental preacher, and though his preaching seemed to touch chiefly upon the experience of those who were tried by the ordinary cares and sorrows of human life, and to suggest the usual topics of consolation adapted to such cases, yet it did not fail sometimes to analyze the deeper workings of the human heart when struggling with all the powers of darkness, and all the strength of its own corruptions. It was, however, the widow mourning over her bereavement, the mother weeping for her dead child, the man of broken fortunes, the orphan youth, the perplexed pilgrim, or the soul under the common temptations of our probation, that his preaching was mainly calculated to help and comfort; and hence the wide range of his popularity. But the intellectual doubts and difficulties, the

profounder depths of mental distress, the sterner conflicts of the soul with unbelief, were perhaps, advisedly, not so much nor so frequently made the subjects of his discourses. Hence, amidst the crowd of his hearers and admirers, were not so many of those who wanted the stronger consolation which a heart bruised and broken in the spiritual conflict requires. But equally true is it, that he never administered to inconsistent professors the ardent spirit of Antinomian comfort, which was but too common at the commencement of his ministry; or to imaginative believers, the cordials of a sentimental comfort, no less common at the close of it. It was, however, as a practical preacher that Mr. Jay chiefly excelled; and here his excellences were transcendent. No man perceived more clearly the obligations of the Christian life, and no man urged them more earnestly or more attractively. It was his happy art to make men feel that wisdom's ways are ways of pleasantness, and that all her paths are peace.

"Perhaps there is scarcely a single word which will more aptly describe Mr. Jay as a preacher than the term *naturalness*. This constituted, we are sure, no small part of the attraction of his manner. His voice, his tones, his action, were all artificial, and displayed the gracefulness of nature. It was not an imitation of nature on the stage, but nature's self in her own walk and place of action. He spoke to you as you felt he should do, without any uncouth awkwardness or caricature which disfigures nature, or any studied affectation which destroys it. To much action in the pulpit, in the use of the hands and arms, he was strongly opposed, and seldom used any, except an occasional elevation of the hand. Here we think he was somewhat deficient, for nature prompts in strong emotion to bodily action. But this was the least part and the lowest manifestation of his naturalness. He spoke from his own nature to the nature of others. He was himself a most inartificial man. All his tastes, his habits, and his pursuits, prove this. He knew human nature well. He studied it in himself and in others. He knew *man*, how he thinks, and feels, and acts. He drew his knowledge, not from copies in books, but from the living original. Men felt when they heard him that they were listening to a preacher who knew not only books, and theories, and systems, but humanity, both in its fallen and in its restored state; in its wants, woes, diseases, remedies, and varieties; one who could sympathise with them as well as teach them. When on a Sunday morning they came, worn and weary with the trials, toils, and cares of the six days' labour, and placed themselves under the sound of his mellifluous voice, they felt sure of not being tantalised and disappointed with a cold intellectualism, or a mere logical demonstration, or a metaphysical abstraction, or a wordy nothing, which would have been giving them a stone when they asked for bread; or with something religiously poetic, which would have been offering them flowers when they wanted meat; — but he fed them with food convenient for them, and satisfied the cravings of their nature with what satisfied his own."

Mr. Jay was a voluminous author, and his published works, chiefly expository and devotional, have attained extensive popularity, both in this country and in America. To those who are capable of appreciating such works, any commendation of ours would be superfluous; but mere literary men may be tempted to peruse some of Mr. Jay's writings, from the following testimony borne to their excellence by Mr. Beckford, who, amongst copious manuscript notes on the margin of a copy of '*The Christian Contemplated*,' thus records his impressions of the matter and style of the author:—

"This man's mind is no petty reservoir supplied him by laborious pumpings—it is a clear transparent spring, flowing so freely as to impress the idea of its being inexhaustible. In many of these pages the stream of eloquence is so full, so rapid, that we

are fairly borne down and laid prostrate at the feet of the preacher, whose arguments in these moments appear as if they could not be controverted, and we must yield to them. The voice which calls us to look into ourselves, and prepare for judgment, is too piercing, too powerful, to be resisted; and we attempt, for worldly and sensual considerations, to shut our ears in vain."

To many readers of the present memoir, the most interesting portion will be the reminiscences of eminent men with whom Mr. Jay at various times came in contact. He once heard John Wesley preach:—

"After tea I went with him in his carriage into Bristol, and heard him preach from Ephes. v. 8—'Ye were sometimes darkness, but now are ye light in the Lord: walk as children of light.' It was the only opportunity I ever had of hearing this truly apostolical man. The whole scene was very picturesque and striking. Several preachers stood in the large pulpit around him: the sermon was short, the language terse and good, but entirely devoid of expansion and imagery, while the delivery was low and unanimated. This surprised me. Was it the influence and effect of age? If it was originally the same how came he to be so popular among the rude multitudes which always attended him, and so hung upon his lips? Whitfield's voice and vehemence, and strong emotions, will in some measure account for the impressions he produced, even regardless of the grace of God which accompanied them. How popular and useful was Berdridge! yet he had nothing of the vulgar orator in his manner; it was plain and unimpassioned. This was the case also with many of the original corps of evangelists."

Of Wilberforce there are some very pleasing reminiscences, and some of his letters to Mr. Jay. His last interview with him is thus described:—

"Having received a note from Mrs. Wilberforce, that they should leave Bath in two days, and mentioning the increased indisposition of her beloved husband, and the possibility of my not seeing him again,—by her desire I called. I was introduced to him alone, as he was lying upon the sofa. Though it was obvious that the outward man was fast declining, all his pious and friendly principles and feelings evinced their full vigour. Propriety required the interview to be short: there could be, therefore, no lengthened conversation. The following, however, I have found, which I wrote down as soon as I returned, precluding any mistake concerning it.

"Something had led him to mention that noblest of all institutions—the Bible Society; and as the Trinitarian Bible Society was about that time making a noise in our city, and assailing and seeking to divide and injure the old Institution, he eagerly inquired whether there were many defections. I told him I believed the defections were almost entirely confined to his own community; for I did not know, in the circle of my acquaintance, one minister or member among all the Dissenters and Methodists who had revolted. 'Well,' he said, 'I am thankful for this, and hope the good cause will continue to flourish.'

"He also said, 'I see what is the best way to reduce an undue attachment to the subordinate things in religion;—it is to keep up a supreme regard to the more important ones; for we shall then have little time and less inclination to engage in the strivings and strifes of bigots.'

"He also observed, 'I see much in the state of the world and church which I deplore, yet I am not among the croakers. I think real religion is spreading, and, I am persuaded, will increasingly spread, till the earth is filled with the knowledge of the Lord, as the waters cover the sea.'

"Taking my hand at parting he pressed it to his bosom, and said, 'I am glad you have not turned aside after any of the 'to! heres' and 'to! theres,' many of which you must have witnessed; but have kept to the common, plain and important truths, in which all Christians are nearly agreed; and I

hope you will never leave the good old way,—God bless you!—What an interview! what a parting! what a benediction!"

A very painful subject is introduced by the editors in their comments on Mr. Jay's correspondence with Wilberforce. It is thought that the sons of Mr. Wilberforce have, in various portions of his Life, made unfair use of the materials with which they were intrusted; and in the matter of his intercourse with Mr. Jay additional proofs of this partiality are brought to light. The editors of Mr. Jay's autobiography conclude their extracts from the correspondence of Wilberforce and Jay with these remarks:—

"The readers of Mr. Jay's reminiscence of Mr. Wilberforce are now in a situation to judge how far the half-dozen trivial and, several of them, scarcely respectful, notices of Mr. Jay, which we have given from the 'Life of Wilberforce,' do honour or even justice to that long and ancient friendship which, as it was unvarying and constant, appears to have been no less sincere and unaffected."

Some of Mr. Jay's reminiscences of Robert Hall and other eminent men we reserve for a future notice.

*A Lecture on the Antiquities of the Anglo-Saxon Cemeteries of the Ages of Paganism, illustrative of the Faussett Collection.* By Thomas Wright, Esq., M.A., F.S.A. Liverpool: T. Brakell.

WHEN our Anglo-Saxon progenitors, some twelve or thirteen hundred years ago, deposited with their dead the arms, implements, and ornaments worn by them during life, they little anticipated that the men of learning, of a remote and highly civilized period, would be engaged in honest rivalry over their desecration and plunder. The light of Christianity had but dimly dawned on these isles; the means vouchsafed to future nations of transmitting their history to posterity were not as yet known; and they seem to have been led to the preservation of these material records of their habits and customs by a kind of superstitious instinct. Just as the stratified crust of our island has yielded up the medals of its formation to the researches of the geologist, so have its superficial barrows given up their more recent antiquarian relics to the researches of the archaeologist; and, in both instances, sciences have sprung out of the investigation, alike sound and precious—one revealing the early condition of our earth, and the other the early habits of our people.

The most valuable collection that has ever been formed of the relics of pagan Saxondom, is that of the late Rev. Bryan Faussett, now in the possession of Mr. Mayer, of Liverpool. It embodies the contents of from seven to eight hundred graves, and they throw a remarkable light upon the history of that age. At the close of the late meeting of the British Association at Liverpool, Mr. Mayer exhibited the Faussett Anglo-Saxon relics at a very crowded soiree, given to the members of the Association by the Historic Society of Lancashire and Cheshire; and the descriptive Lecture before us was delivered on that occasion by the accomplished antiquary, Mr. Thomas Wright. The lecturer detailed the history of the collection as follows:—

"The Rev. Bryan Faussett, of Heppington, near Canterbury, to whom we owe the formation of this collection, had passed the greater part of his life in a district peculiarly rich in Saxon remains: for the succession of chalk downs stretching out from Canterbury towards the east and south are remark-

able for the numerous groups of Saxon barrows, or rather the Saxon cemeteries, which are found on their slopes and summits. In the year 1730, one of these groups, situated on a high part of Chartham down, somewhat more than three miles to the south-west of Canterbury, was partially excavated by Charles Fagg, Esq., of Mystole, in Chartham parish. These excavations were carried on in a very unsatisfactory manner, under the immediate personal direction of Dr. Cromwell Mortimer, the Secretary of the Royal Society, and so little was then known either of the character of the cemeteries, or of the objects they contained, that the learned secretary of that celebrated scientific body actually wrote an elaborate paper on them, in which he arrives at the conclusion that they were the graves of the soldiers slain in a battle fought here between Julius Cæsar and the Britons. Bryan Faussett, at this time only about ten years old, is said to have been present at the opening of these graves, which excited in him an interest that clung to him during the remainder of his life. He was subsequently curate of Kingston, about five miles to the south of Canterbury, from 1750 to 1755, and while resident there his attention was forcibly riveted on a very remarkable and extensive group of barrows in his own parish, on the brow of the hill near Ileden. Still possessed by the notion that these barrows or tumuli marked the site of a battle between Cæsar and the Britons, Bryan Faussett was anxious to open them, but the permission to do so was refused by the owner of the land, Thomas Barrett, Esq., and Mr. Faussett's curiosity remained unsatisfied. At length, in 1757, Mr. Faussett was enabled to gratify his spirit of research in commencing a series of excavations in a cemetery on a spot called Trenworth down, in the parish of Crundale, which however proved to be Roman. His excavations on this site were continued in the year 1759. In 1760, 1762, and 1763, he pursued his researches in the very rich Saxon cemetery at Gilton in the parish of Ash, near Sandwich, where he opened no less than a hundred and six tumuli, or graves, which enriched his collection with a number of interesting objects. In 1767, Mr. Faussett's attention was again called to the barrows in Kingston parish, and the land having passed by the death of its former owner and the marriage of his daughter to a personal friend, he obtained at last full liberty to excavate. He was soon convinced of his error in supposing that they had had any connexion with Cæsar or the Britons, and he obtained from them many of the most precious articles which are now found in his collection. During the autumn of the year just mentioned Mr. Faussett opened fifty-four tumuli on this site. His further researches here were interrupted, for some reason or other, from the September of 1767 to the middle of July, 1771, when he resumed his labours on the same spot, and during that and the following month opened a hundred and sixty-five barrows. In August and October, 1772, he opened thirty-four more tumuli on this spot; and in the August and September of the following year he examined forty-five more; making in all three hundred and eight separate interments in one cemetery.

"The years 1772 and 1773 were those of Mr. Faussett's most active researches. In the July of the former of these two years he began to open a rather extensive cemetery, or more accurately speaking, two cemeteries, on Sibertswold down, about half way between Canterbury and Deal. During the summers of this and the following year, he opened a hundred and eighty-one Anglo-Saxon graves, many of which contained objects of the greatest interest. During the July and August of 1772, Mr. Faussett also opened forty-eight graves in a smaller cemetery, on Barreston down, in the immediate neighbourhood of that at Sibertswold. During the summer months of the year 1773, Mr. Faussett opened forty-four Saxon tumuli in a cemetery in the parish of Beakesbourne, about four miles to the south-east of Canterbury; and in the autumn of the same year, returning to the scene of his earliest antiquarian impressions, he opened fifty-three graves on Chartham down, in

the same cemetery which had, in 1730, occupied the attention of Mr. Fagg and Dr. Mortimer. With these excavations Bryan Faussett's labours seem to have closed. He was probably hindered from continuing them by declining health, as we know that he died within three years after, in 1776."

Mr. Wright has entire belief in the pagan character of the relics, and gives the following interesting description of their particulars and mode of arrangement in the graves:—

"The body was usually laid on its back in the middle of the floor of the grave. In the MS. account of his diggings, Faussett frequently mentions traces of the existence of a coffin, but, as far as my own experience goes, I am led to think that the use of a coffin was not common. Where the body was that of a man, we almost always find above the right shoulder the iron head of a spear, and in general we may trace by the colour of the earth the decayed wood of the shaft, until near the foot of the skeleton lies the iron-spiked ferule which terminated it at the other end. We sometimes also meet with one or more smaller heads of javelins, or arrows, for I disagree entirely with a statement which has been made lately and adhered to, that the bow was in discredit among the Anglo-Saxons as a weapon. Closer to the side of the skeleton lies usually (though not always) a long iron broadsword, not much unlike the claymore of the Scottish highlander, of which it is probably the prototype. The sheath and handle appear in most cases to have been made of perishable materials, and we seldom find more than the blade with the spike by which it was fixed into the handle. The tip of the sheath, however, is sometimes found, having been made of bronze or other metal, and also, at times, the handle of the sword, which has been found of silver. Another article, peculiarly characteristic of the Saxon interments, is the knife, the length of which is generally about five or six inches, although at times it extends to from ten to eleven inches, and then from its shape it must have been a very formidable weapon, independent of its utility for other purposes. It has been pretended that it was from the use of this instrument, called in their language, a *senca*, that our forefathers derived their name of *Saxons*. Another weapon, the axe, is found at times in the Saxon graves, but it is of very rare occurrence, and was probably not in general use in this island.

"Over the breast of the Saxon warrior is generally found the iron umbo or boss of his shield. Its shape is not always the same, as will be seen by the examples now exhibited, but there is a general character about this part of the accoutrements of the Anglo-Saxon which makes it perfectly inexcusable for any one who pretends to the character of an archaeologist to misappropriate it, as has been done in a recent publication which I regret to say contains too many errors of this kind, I mean Wilson's 'Archæology and Prehistoric Annals of Scotland.' Beneath the boss of the shield is usually found a piece of iron which is best described by a drawing, and which no doubt was the handle by which the shield was held. Douglas, who had not observed carefully the position in which it is found, imagined it to be part of a bow, and called it a bow-brace. The shield itself, as we know from the Anglo-Saxon writers, was of wood, generally of linden, and has therefore perished, but we find remains of nails, studs, and other iron work belonging to it.

"Such are the more common arms which we find, without much variation, in the graves of our Anglo-Saxon forefathers, of the period to which these cemeteries belong. The miscellaneous articles are so varied, that I can only enumerate them rapidly. Of personal ornaments, the first that attract our attention are the fibule, or brooches, and the buckles. The latter are usually of bronze gilt, and are often very elaborately ornamented, as will be seen by the numerous examples in the Faussett collection. From the position in which they are found, it is evident that they formed, most generally, the fastening of the girdle. They are

sometimes very massive, the larger ones apparently belonging to the male, and the smaller ones to the female costume.

"Many of the fibule which are found upon male skeletons, as well as females, are extremely rich and beautiful. In the Kentish tumuli the prevailing form is circular, and they are often of gold, profusely ornamented with filigree work, and with garnets or other stones, or sometimes glass or paste, set usually upon chequered foils of gold. The use of this fibula appears to have been to fasten the mantle over the breast, where it is most commonly found. Some of the finest examples of the Saxon gold fibule occur in the Faussett collection. Their general size is from an inch and a half to two inches in diameter; but the Faussett collection possesses one of considerably larger dimensions, which was found in the grave of an Anglo-Saxon lady, on Kingston down. This magnificent ornament is no less than three inches and a half in diameter; a quarter of an inch thick at the edges, and three quarters of an inch thick at the centre, all of gold, and weighing between six and seven ounces. It is covered with ornaments of filigree work, in concentric circles, and is set with garnets and with pale blue stones. The acns or pin on the back is also ornamented and set with garnets. It was found high on the breast, near the right shoulder. Other examples of the circular gold fibula will be seen in the Faussett collection, and they are met with in almost every collection of Anglo-Saxon remains from the Kentish barrows.

"Other jewellery, such as rings, bracelets, necklaces of beads, pendants to the neck and ears, &c., are found in abundance, and in a great variety of form. Gold coins are sometimes fitted up as pendent ornaments. The most common material of beads is glass or variegated clay, the latter made with great skill, and often exhibiting pleasing patterns. It belonged to a class of manufacture which has continued to exist in this country down to a recent period. Another common material of beads was amber, and we sometimes find small lumps of amber which have been perforated, in order to be attached to the person by a string. It must be observed that we sometimes find a string of beads round the neck of a man, and other circumstances show that there were Saxon *exquisites* who were vain enough of their personal adornments. It is, however, a very usual thing to find one or more beads of amber near the neck in cases where there can be no doubt that the deceased was a man; but this circumstance is explained by a widely prevailing superstition in the middle ages, that amber carried on the person was a protection against the influence of evil spirits. Large hair pins, usually of bone or bronze, and more or less ornamented, are generally found near the heads of skeletons of females, in such a position as leads us to conclude that the Saxon ladies bound up their hair behind in a manner similar to that which prevailed among the Romans.

"The interments of the Anglo-Saxon ladies are generally accompanied with a number of articles of utility as well as of ornament. By a lady's side, we usually find the remains, more or less perfect, of a bunch of domestic implements, somewhat resembling the article brought into fashion a few months ago under the name of a *châtelaine*. To these were hung, among other articles, small tweezers, intended for the eradication of superfluous hairs, which are so common, that it is evident that the practice of depilation prevailed generally among the Anglo-Saxon ladies, and other instruments which evidently served for ear-picks and tooth-picks. The tweezers so closely resemble those found on Roman sites, that we can hardly doubt that it was from the Romans the Anglo-Saxons originally derived them. Combs also are found very frequently, not only in the graves of women but in those of men, which shows that the latter, which in fact was the case among all the branches of the Teutonic race, paid great attention to their hair. Those which are preserved are usually of bone, and they are, as at present, sometimes single, and sometimes double. It is more than probable, that in many of the graves in which little is found,

there were originally combs and other articles of wood, a material which of course has perished long ago, even where it existed in much greater masses. It appears that there was often attached to the *châtelaine* or suspended by the side of it, a bag of some kind, containing other articles used by the ladies, for we frequently find on the spot where it has lain a heap of small articles which are at times tolerably preserved, but in others the iron is so much oxidized, as to present a mere confused mass of fragments. In these groups, which differ much, both in the number and in the character of the articles which compose them, we usually find one or more small knives, and a pair of scissors. The Anglo-Saxon scissors of this early period, resemble in form the shears of modern times, though we have found one or two examples of scissors formed like those now in use. We have also pins, and needles, and keys, and other small articles, which I will not now attempt to enumerate.

"A great variety of household utensils, of different kinds, are also found in the Anglo-Saxon graves. The pottery, when not Roman, is of a rude construction, and, in fact, it is not very abundant, for our Anglo-Saxon forefathers, for several ages after their settlement in this island, seem to have used principally pottery of Roman manufacture. I would merely call your attention to the particular character of several earthenware urns found in Kent, which Bryan Faussett supposed to be early Romano-British, and of which I shall have to speak again further on. But if the Anglo-Saxon earthenware was rude and coarse in its character, the case was quite different with the Anglo-Saxon glass, which is rather common in the graves of Kent. The glass of the Anglo-Saxons is fine and delicately thin. It is found chiefly in drinking cups, though a few small basins and bottle-shaped vessels of glass have been found. The form of the drinking cups will be best understood by a diagram. It will be observed that they are either pointed at the bottom, or rounded in such a manner that they could never have stood upright, a form which it is supposed was given them to force each drinker to empty his glass at a draught. This practice is understood to have existed down to a much later period, and it is said to have given rise to the name *tumbler*, applied originally to a drinking glass which was never intended to stand upright. The ornamentation of the Anglo-Saxon glass generally consists either of furrows on the surface, or of strings of glass attached to the vessel after it was made. Both these ornaments seem to come fairly under the epitaph 'twisted,' which is often applied to drinking cups in the earliest Anglo-Saxon poetry that has been preserved.

"Bowls, large basins, and dishes, are not unfrequently found in these graves, of such elegant form that we can hardly help supposing them to be of Roman manufacture; and in one instance a bowl of apparently Roman workmanship was found mended with what were as evidently Saxon materials. Others, however, seem to be Saxon, and prove certainly that the Anglo-Saxons had skilful workmen. These bowls, basins, and dishes, are usually of bronze, often very thickly and well gilt. The metal is generally thin, and it may be remarked as a particular character which distinguishes Anglo-Saxon workmanship from Roman, that the substance is generally thin instead of being massive.

"There is another domestic implement which requires particular notice, and which is not uncommon in the Kentish Saxon graves. I mean a bucket, of which, as it has been made generally of wood, there seldom remains more than the hoops, and other bronze or iron work. One engraved by Douglas, seems to have been composed almost entirely of brass, or bronze, and iron. The use of these buckets has been the subject of conjecture and of very contrary opinions; but I am inclined to believe that it was the vessel called by the Anglo-Saxons a *fæt*, or vat, and that its use was to carry into the hall, and convey into the drinking cups of the carousers, the mead, ale, or wine, which they were to drink. They generally possess too

much of an ornamental character to have served for any purpose of a less honourable character. The early Anglo-Saxon poem of Beowulf, (l. 231.), in describing a feast, tells us how

'byrcas sealdon  
win of wunder-fatum,  
cup-bearers gave  
the wine from wondrous vats.'

These vats or buckets are never large. The one engraved by Douglas was only seven inches and a half high; another, found in Bourne park, the largest I have seen, was about twelve inches high.

"I will only mention, as a further illustration of the great variety of articles which are found in these Anglo-Saxon graves, and which show us how little we have hitherto really understood of the degree of civilization existing among the Anglo-Saxons before their conversion to Christianity, that with one interment has been found a pair of compasses, and in several instances scales and weights have occurred. Mr. Rolfe obtained from the interesting cemetery at Osengell a pair of delicately formed bronze scales, with a complete set of weights, all formed from Roman coins. You will observe a set of such coin-weights in the Faussett collection."

Among the relics which Mr. Wright enumerates are some Cowrie shells, which he believes "are only found on the shores of the Pacific," and, together with money from Constantinople and France, and glass from the interior of Germany, "prove an extensive commerce, the origin and accompaniment of national prosperity." The shells in question are, however, the *Cyprea pantherina* of the Red Sea, not from the Pacific Ocean, but from the same eastern source, or nearly so, as the money and glass.

Mr. Wright announced in his lecture that Mr. Mayer is proceeding with the publication of the whole of the valuable manuscripts of Mr. Faussett, under the editorial care of Mr. Roach Smith, and that they will be illustrated with engravings of the articles.

*The British Commonwealth; or, a Commentary on the Institutions and Principles of the British Government.* By Honersham Cox, M.A., Barrister-at-Law. Longman and Co.

WHEN Delolme wrote his treatise on the British Constitution, there was no book from which an Englishman could obtain a comprehensive and popular account of the government under which he lived. To the value of that work, political and historical authors have always borne high testimony, and it still remains a favourite manual and book of reference. But there are many subjects connected with the principles of the British government, its functions and institutions, which have received fuller elucidation, both theoretical and practical, since the days of Delolme. Accordingly we find that recent editions of his work require frequent notes and explanations, and on certain subjects supplemental chapters have to be added. It was time that some new treatise should be prepared, in which the results of recent political researches should be embodied, in which the changes and improvements of the past century should be recorded, and the present actual condition of the mechanism and working of government be described. Mr. Honersham Cox has undertaken to fill up this desideratum in this treatise on the British Commonwealth:—

"The number of treatises (he remarks) in which the abstract principles of government and its form in England are discussed, is very great; yet the social relations of the different parts of the community have been so much altered since most of

those treatises were written, that they give but little information of the present practical working of our Constitution. The extension of trade and commerce, the increase of wealth and population, the improvements of art and science, and the diffusion of general knowledge, have had the effect of almost remodelling society within the period of recent history, and have introduced difficulties and complexities of legislation which were neither known to, nor anticipated by, the most celebrated writers, who have considered the ancient political institutions of this nation. Of no country is the literature more rich than ours in works, which treat with admirable freedom and perspicuity of the science of government, and in treatises which state, with great learning and research, the nature and history of our constitutional laws; but respecting a large part of the vast and complicated machinery, by which, in modern times, the laws are established and executed, there are but few sources of general information. After careful inquiry, I have been unable to discover any book in which the modern principles of the British Constitution are systematically discussed and elucidated by reference to the actual state and numerous institutions of our Government."

In the arrangement of the work the author commences with a disquisition on the general principles of government, and on the laws and institutions of England. The British Commonwealth is described under the heads of Domestic Government, International Government, and Colonial Government. The Domestic Government, forming the largest and most important subject of the work, is treated under the heads of legislature, judiciary, and administration:—

"Under the first head have been considered not only the legislative powers formerly recognised by law, but also the various legislative influences of Political Parties, Commissions of Inquiry, the Press, and Public Opinions. Some space is also devoted to the investigation of the principles of representative government."

"The nature of the tribunals, by which the laws are judicially enforced, is next considered, and a slight notice, which the elucidation of the subject required, is given of the distinctions between the different kinds of law administered in England."

"Administrative offices have been here distinguished into two kinds—those instituted by Royal prerogative, and those which derive most of their power from Acts of Parliament. The latter include numerous Boards, created to meet modern exigencies of Government, and many institutions of local government. The consideration of the functions of the ancient offices of State includes a brief investigation of the nature of Royal prerogative, and the value and efficiency of monarchical institutions."

The large range of subjects included in Mr. Cox's treatise required conciseness and brevity in the treatment of them, and it is not easy, by detached extracts, to give a favourable view of the most valuable parts of the work, containing detailed information as to the theory and practice of the British Constitution. We give his remarks on one of the powers which has in recent times gradually assumed an influential place in the British Commonwealth, so much so as to be popularly designated 'the Fourth Estate.' The press is now universally recognised as the medium through which public opinion is chiefly made known, and its power exerted. 'Petition' is another medium, and 'political meetings' are among the modes of expressing public opinion, but both of these derive much of their influence from the publicity acquired for their principles and proceedings through the medium of the press:—

"An English newspaper is certainly a marvelous production. The immense amount of intelli-

gence which issues every morning from the press has, for the most part, been collected from innumerable sources in all parts of the kingdom but a few hours before. From the senate, the forum, and the mart, from the highways of commerce by sea and land, from the thronged streets and crowded ports, from every great haunt of men, every seat of political events throughout the globe, and by the most refined mechanical means, the information of the daily sheet has to be collected. How many agencies, political, material, and intellectual, are at work to produce it! and every one of them is a condition essential to its production. An English newspaper is an example of the combined effect of free institutions; for were not the national institutions free, free criticism, the very life of the press, would be impracticable;—of immense energy; for the powers, mental and mechanical, which are at work the livelong night to produce the morning newspaper, are taxed to their utmost;—of division of labour; for unless the labours of reporting, editing, and printing, were divided according to a system, carried, apparently, to the pitch of perfection, the most vigorous energy, and the most robust powers of endurance, would be inadequate to the accomplishment of the required task;—of the resources of vast capital; for of every part of the civilized world the news is collected, digested, and recorded; of extensive learning; for nearly every branch of history, law, political economy, literature, aesthetics, ethnology, statistical lore, and constitutional and moral philosophy, is laid under contribution;—of mechanical genius, for the most subtle contrivances are necessary, in order to effect the printing with sufficient rapidity;—and, lastly, an insatiable public appetite for political knowledge; for it is this universal demand which alone sustains the exertion of those energies by which a newspaper is produced."

"Enormous as is the power of the press, it can seldom be exercised despotically, for the numerous periodical publications mutually check each other, and are all subject to the restraint of public opinion. It is undeniably true, that as the liberty of the press has become more completely established—the licentiousness of the press has greatly diminished. When prosecutions against the press were rife, the malignant diatribes of a Junius against an imbecile king, the vile rancour of a Swift towards a party, against whom he directed his venal pen, because they would not give his own price for it, were rendered palatable, partly by the pungent language in which scurrility was dressed, and partly by popular sympathy with sufferers by State prosecutions. But similar attacks upon the Crown and Government would not be tolerated now for the sake of their epigrammatic diction. This improvement of the tone of the press, and of public feeling, of which it is the echo, is to be attributed to an enduring cause—namely this, that constitutional freedom is now so well ascertained, that the unwholesome stimulant to political virulence no longer exists."

"We are, for the most part, sensible of the inestimable benefits which result from the freedom of the press; but it is well to recollect, that that freedom has required the most earnest and persevering efforts of enlightened advocates for its final establishment."

Mr. Cox then gives a narrative of the historical progress of this power, from the time when Milton, in his 'Areopagitica,' published his noble argument for 'unlicensed printing!' The influence of the press is considered not only in regard to newspapers, but to printing generally, and the following testimony is borne to the political results that are produced by the universal circulation of printed Bibles:—

"It was nobly said of the Bible by one of England's worthies—Sir Thomas Brown—'Men's works have an age like themselves, and though they outlive their authors, yet have they a stint and a period to their duration. This, only, is a work too hard for the teeth of time, and cannot perish but in the general flames, when all things

shall confess their ashes.' From its very commencement, typography was employed for the diffusion of the sacred Scriptures, and to it may be clearly attributed an important share in the religious reformations of Northern Europe. Omitting here all higher considerations, who can adequately estimate the political benefits of the printed Bible? Its influence has been felt by those who never knew its inspiration. It has subverted the inquisition, crumbled the walls of torture-chambers, sternly reproved the licentiousness of courts, imposed on governments rules of honesty, restrained sedition from thirst of blood, has curbed, and shall by God's grace destroy, ere long, the hellhounds of war. The courtier may profane the Bible with hollow compliments, and the demagogue insult it by false philosophy, but both courtier and demagogue yield to its sway. The Hindoo may not know why the murderous rites of Juggernaut have ceased, nor the African slave why his manacles are loosed; but we know the reason to be that the myriads of the West have a book wherein they read 'Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself.' Of yore that truth was preached by the blood of martyrs. Now it is proclaimed by the million-tongued voice of Printing."

Among the institutions which have in recent times obtained conspicuous place, and of which the advantages are obvious, though their duties and powers are as yet imperfectly defined, and require to be watched and regulated, are 'Commissions of Inquiry.' We give at length the chapter relating to the subject:—

"A very valuable and interesting part of the English legislative system is the institution of public inquiries, by means of Royal Commissions, respecting subjects upon which it is important that Parliament should receive authentic information. These inquiries are instituted by the exercise of the Royal prerogative. The sovereign, by a *commission* which is issued under the sign-manual, or by patent under the Great Seal, authorizes certain persons named in the commission to inquire respecting the subject specified, and to report thereon to the Crown, within a convenient period of time. The commissioners so appointed are usually persons eminent for knowledge of the subject on which they are to inquire, and in most cases perform their services gratuitously. Commissions of Inquiry are issued by the Crown, sometimes in accordance with Acts of Parliament, directing particular inquiries; sometimes in compliance with addresses from the Houses of Parliament; sometimes by the sole authority of the Crown, exercised upon the recommendation of its responsible advisers.

"The commissioners usually proceed to invite the attendance of persons qualified to give appropriate information, whose oral evidence is taken in shorthand, and subsequently printed with the report of the commissioners, which is generally presented to both Houses of Parliament by Royal command. The commissioners also frequently receive written communications from competent persons; and where the inquiries are of a scientific nature, institute experiments. The evidence received is voluntary, and not taken on oath, unless power of compelling evidence and administering oaths be given by Act of Parliament. A secretary is usually associated with the commissioners, to assist them in the discharge of their duties, and provision is made for their accommodation, and their expenses are defrayed by the Treasury. For the reimbursement of the latter, a vote is proposed for a parliamentary grant. The labours of the commissioners are usually confined to inquiries, and terminate with their making their report.

"The magnitude of the interests affected by Commissions of Inquiry; the diversity and frequent complexity of the subjects investigated by them; the particular eminence and learning of the persons chosen to be commissioners; the profound and elaborate nature of their reports; the authentic character of the accompanying evidence, and the able manner in which it is generally methodised and indexed, render the 'blue books' produced

by the commissioners most interesting and valuable contributions to political, legal, philosophical, and statistical knowledge. Some of the most important legislative enactments of late years have been founded on such reports, and in many cases have been in close conformity with the recommendations of the commissioners.

"The subjects of these inquiries are very various. Among the subjects for the investigation of which commissions have been recently instituted are the state and operation of different branches of the law—the practice and procedure of legal tribunals—the conduct and management of different departments of administrative government—the state and revenues of institutions publicly endowed for purposes of religion, education, and charity—the condition of institutions of local and municipal government—the condition of particular classes of the community, and the operation of laws affecting them—the state and advancement of various branches of art and science pursued for public purposes.

"The authority of Royal Commissions, and the nature of the prerogative power of the Crown by which they are constituted, have been made the subjects of parliamentary and legal discussions. The questions at issue in these discussions seem to be—(1), whether the Crown can constitutionally commission persons to invite the voluntary contribution of information; (2), whether the Royal prerogative can invest commissioners with the compulsory power of obtaining information. There seems little difficulty in deciding on the first point, when it is considered that a denial of a power in the Crown of inviting voluntary information would be the denial of a power possessed by all classes of the community; that Royal Commissioners anciently derived from the Crown far more extensive powers; and that modern practice has, with the complete approbation of the nation, sanctioned Commissions of Inquiry not possessed of compulsory power. At the same time, it should not be overlooked, that the extent of this, as well as several other branches of Royal prerogative, stands somewhat in need of definition. Doubtless, much of the opposition to these Royal Commissions has arisen among persons whose prejudices or selfish interests have rendered them adverse to public inquiry. But, on the other hand, it should not be forgotten that the method of inquiry by Royal Commissions is susceptible of abuse. Though the practice be now otherwise, it is, at least, possible that the inquiry may be partial and unfair. The jealous regard of our ancestors for constitutional liberty induced them to carefully regulate the procedure of courts of law, so that no man should be condemned unheard, or damned by *ex-parte* statements. At a very early period, English judicature was nobly distinguished from that of other nations, by the invariable rule of acquainting the accused with the nature of the accusation, and requiring the accuser to meet him face to face. The constitutional sensibilities of the people nowhere appeared more clearly than in their antipathy to tribunals in which this principle of fair play was not observed. Now, the respect of Commissioners of Inquiry for their own characters would render it excessively improbable, that they should, in investigations which frequently affect interests of vast magnitude, purposely conduct a one-sided inquiry, but it is quite possible, that by oversight or misapprehension, they might do so. Moreover, the information given before these commissions is not necessarily truly voluntary. It may be extorted by the necessity of meeting an unjust charge made for private purposes. From both the foregoing considerations we may infer, that the necessity may hereafter arise of establishing, by law, some general rules of investigation by Commissions of Inquiry, which at present have no established course of procedure, and, when once constituted, proceed in a great degree independently even of the Administrative Government.

"The question respecting the possession of compulsory powers by Commissions of Inquiry is one involving no little difficulty, and requiring research in obscure parts of the English law. The balance

of the authorities seems in favour of the conclusion, that these commissions cannot be armed with power to compel the giving of evidence by the Royal prerogative, unaided by Act of Parliament.

"Coke, in the fourth part of the 'Institute,' cap. xxviii., says: 'Commissions are like the king's writs, such are to be allowed which have warrant of law and continual allowances in courts of justice. For all commissions of new invention are against law, until they have allowance by Act of Parliament. Commissions of *novel inquiries* are declared to be void; 18 Edw. III., cap. 1. Commissions to assay weights and measures (being of new invention) are declared to be void, and that such commissions shall not be after granted.'

"A subsequent Act of Parliament, of the same reign as that cited by Coke, recognised Commissions of Inquiry. By 43 Edw. III., cap. 4, 'in all Inquiries within this realm commissions shall be made to some of the justices of assize, or justices of the peace, with others of the most worthy of the country, as well for the king's profit as the commons (saving in the office of the Escheatorship, or thing that toucheth the same office).'

"The resolutions in Lord Coke's Reports (12 Co. 31, 'Commissions of Inquiry') have been cited as authority both for and against Commissions of Inquiry; but the language in a material passage is obscure and contradictory, and, as is acutely pointed out in the 'Law Magazine,' vol. xv., 1851, is probably corrupt. For an account of this controversy, and authorities on the subject, the reader, who is curious respecting it, is referred to the last-mentioned work.

"Both Houses of Parliament have powers of instituting inquiries for purposes similar to those for which Royal Commissions of Inquiry are constituted. Such parliamentary inquiries are conducted by select committees (as has been already noticed) respecting subjects specified by the order of reference, or by subsequent instructions of the House. Both Houses possess power to enforce the giving information to committees, by punishment for contempt of the Houses themselves. Parliamentary committees sit only during sessions, and (except by special leave) can sit only during the intervals between daily sittings of the House; they are not therefore so suitable for conducting inquiries which require protracted research or local information, as Royal Commissions."

On various questions, admitting of diversity of opinion, and on subjects where it is generally allowed that there is room for reform, the work contains fair statements and able arguments. We may refer as instances to the chapters in which the author discusses the subjects of Parliamentary Suffrage, Vote by Ballot, the powers of Boards instituted by Acts of Parliament, the functions of the Privy Council, government by Cabinet and by political parties. On these and other questions there is room for conflicting opinions, but we avoid entering on controversial topics, observing, in passing, that while the author in most cases states frankly his own views, full and impartial statements are given of the arguments adduced by the leading writers and politicians. Nor are the defects and evils existing in 'our glorious Constitution' passed over without due notice. While there is much to make every Englishman proud of his country and its government, there are many social and political evils calling for humility, and inciting to active and benevolent exertion. With the spirit and tendency of the remarks with which the book closes, every right-hearted reader will feel complete sympathy:—

"Incomparably the most momentous question of English politics now is the remedy of the pauperism and depravity of the very poor. Why are our streets thronged by miserable mendicants—why the vile wynds and courts and alleys with starving half-naked outcasts? Why do the off-

repulsed applicants clamour at the doors of the huge crowded workhouses for admission, and why do men now 'break into gaol?' Why is the eye of the poor sempstress dimmed, and her emaciated hand tremulous with excessive toil? Why are the streets thronged in the bitter winter nights with wretched women, the victims of want as often as of vice—whose hollow laughter prosperous Respectability hears indignant? Why is the artisan at work so hard and so long—rising up early and late taking rest, and eating the bread of carefulness—and is so thin and wan and poorly clad? Why are his little children forced to the workshop to help him fight the battle against starvation, and why are they defrauded of their rights—the tender nurture and artless joys of childhood? Why do penury and want and woe go stalking about our cities as though we suffered the horrors of siege? Are these sore evils the inevitable lot of the English people? Surely they are industrious, intellectual, and frugal. Surely the soil is fruitful, the earth richly stored with wealth. Surely the bounties of Nature are poured upon the land with unstinted hand. Surely we were not created for these evils. They are not inevitable. 'God giveth abundance; and Pauperism is the work of man.'

"Nor are the uneducated poor the only victims of the evils of our social system. Let us ascend higher in the social scale, and inquire why the poor scholar who racks his brains with midnight toil, suffers all the miseries of shifty indigence, rendered additionally painful by taste and faculties refined by education? Why are some, the wisest, the worthiest of the nation, condemned to forced idleness, or to cruel indignities in supplicating for ill-required employment? Of no English class are the lives more continually tragical histories of silent misery. No class suffers more pitifully from the oppressor's wrong, the poor man's contumely, and the spurns that patient merit of the unworthy takes. Men excelling in intellect, virtue, and learning—all that is the real worth of a man—men whose attainments would in a well-ordered social system be highly valued, in ours suffer more undeserved neglect and oppression than any of their fellow-victims of plutocracy.

"Admirable as is the British Constitution, it will be time enough to deem it perfect when these social evils are remedied, or at least when legislative power is confided to those only who are competent to investigate, and earnest to apply the remedies. The national sufferings now are the consequences of a long course of national vices—mad waste of life and wealth in war—criminal neglect of the moral and physical condition of the poor—foolish, spendthrift, selfish laws. The diseases are of long duration, and therefore do not admit of instantaneous cure. Yet as they result from human error, and the body is still sound, they are curable. Even already the prospect of a better future opens before us; of a time when the horrors of pauperism shall cease; when the worker shall find profitable labour and have the rights of a Christian man, when his children shall be duly taught and tended, when intellectual worth shall be cherished by the nation, when the whole people shall be fellow-helpers, when England shall be a Commonwealth in very deed.

"This is the great task set before us as a nation—to cure, by God's aid, the sores which fester on the body politic, to fulfil our profession of Christianity, and by example to teach the whole world how it may be happier and better. A glorious task! There is none worthier of the noblest, mightiest energies of man. The memories of the wise and good of past ages who strove so well for British liberties, plead for its achievement. The present sufferings of myriads of mankind plead for its achievement. The future interests of unborn generations plead for its achievement. Its achievement is sure, the aid of that Power and Wisdom being vouchsafed, by which alone peace and happiness, truth and justice, religion and piety may be established among us for all generations."

A copious list is given of the authorities consulted in the preparation of the work,

which is useful as directing to the sources whence the student may derive fuller information on particular subjects. But Mr. Cox's volume contains a summary, sufficiently comprehensive and exact for popular use, of political knowledge, which every well-educated Englishman ought to possess.

#### *Lights and Shadows of Australian Life.* By Mrs. Charles Clay. Hurst and Blackett.

In her former work, 'A Lady's Visit to the Gold Diggings,' Mrs. Clay gave most lively and truthful pictures of the Australian mining districts and their population. In these volumes are presented miscellaneous sketches of colonial life and manners, drawn with the same sprightliness of style and faithfulness of detail. The book has the form of fiction; but we are assured that "all the tales are founded upon facts that have occurred in real life; the greater portion of them having fallen within the personal knowledge of the author." While affording amusement to the general reader, these 'Lights and Shadows of Australian Life' are full of useful hints to intending emigrants, and will convey to friends at home acceptable information as to the country where so many now have friends or relatives. The irregular plan of the work, and its off-hand, sketchy style, admit of a variety of details being given, from which many readers will gather more lifelike ideas of Australian life than they might possess after the study of larger and more formal descriptions or narratives. We take a characteristic extract from one of the first stories:—

"'I like Australia,' replied Tom, 'and I always write to all my friends to emigrate, except those, perhaps, as have a lot of wee picaninnies about them, which is troublesome at first; but Australia's like everything in this world: it has its ups and its downs, its good and its bad, and they're pretty equal. Now, in the old place there's a precious small sight of good for the poor: it's all hard work and small pay, and the workhouse to end it; here there's independence for every one that chooses. You see, sir, when I'm downhearted, lost in the bush, and bruised about by a set of rascally bushrangers, I'm ready to find fault with Australia; but when I see, as I often do, those who were starving in England, living here in comfort, with happy faces round them, and a something to fall back upon when they're old, then, say I, it's a pity and a crime that one half of the poor, starving things in the old country, haven't the means given them to come out here too.'

"'I heartily agree with you,' returned George; 'and since I have been in Australia, it appears to me astounding that so few among the wealthy and influential look upon emigration in the important light it deserves. They know, or ought to know, that there are hundreds almost starving, and that there is a land where they might live in plenty, yet they look on supinely, content to watch the efforts of the few who nobly exert themselves to people this vast continent.'

"Here the halting of the dray in a sheltered nook, where they intended to pass the night, put an end to the conversation.

"In the course of the evening after this, they reached Mr. Mortimer's station, to whom George had already discovered that the dray belonged. Here he was received with the most hospitable attention by his host, who also pressed Tom to pass the night there. This Tom did; but the next morning he accepted Mr. Mortimer's offer of the use of his spring-cart, and prepared to go, in spite of George's entreaties that he would remain.

"I'll tell you how 'tis, sir,' said he, in an undertone; 'my master is a queer chap, and an awful hand at drink, and then he's bad to deal with, and hard upon Miss Mary (that's his daughter), and

I'm a sort of protection to her, as he's a bit afraid of me. How she'll have got along all this time—but I'll not be away another night; so here's luck and good bye to you, sir, and I hope we'll meet again.'

"'I will take care that we do,' said George, as he warmly shook his hand.

"As it was almost dark when he had arrived, it was not until the next morning that he obtained a view of his new abode; but when he did so, his delight at the beauty of all around him was at first unalloyed by any other feeling. The house itself was built of stone, and was large and commodious, with a shady verandah, which was nearly hidden beneath clusters of wild creepers and ferns. Some distance beyond the station rose a barrier of rocks, which sheltered the spot from the cold south winds; groves of the palm and Indian fig-trees were scattered here and there; the elegant leaves of the tea-fern were reflected in the waters of a small lake; and to complete the picture, were some cattle luxuriating on the fresh green herbage, and the gay prattle of childish voices, as they sat upon the ground outside the verandah, caressing a large kangaroo-dog which lay at their feet.

"It was a scene of calm loveliness; and, as I have said, George experienced no feeling but delight as he first gazed upon it; but as his eye fell upon the stock-keeper's merry children, and caught sight of a graceful womanly figure bending over them, other recollections passed over his mind, and a deep sigh burst from him. In the danger and excitement of the last few days—in the gaiety and dissipation of Sydney, he had lost sight of many bitter remembrances, and given himself up to the passing moment, without recurring to the memory of bygone days. But here, secluded almost from the world, in a place where peace and happiness seemed to pervade every living thing, he looked back upon the past—upon the principal events of his own thoughtless and undisciplined existence, and then turned to the hopeless future—to the life-long penalty his past follies would entail upon him.

"And thus he sorrowfully mused, till a return of the old recklessness came over him, and he shook off, as it were, the temporary depression of spirit, and with lighter steps walked slowly towards the house.

"He had been hidden from sight by a group of trees intermingled with fern; and as he advanced, still concealed from the little party before the verandah, he obtained, without being himself seen, a closer view of them.

"The children were sitting, as before, upon the ground, twining some wild flowers round the neck of their canine companion; beside them stood a young girl of about seventeen; and George had little doubt that she was Janet Mortimer, the only child of his host.

"Janet had been born in the colony, and was therefore a 'currency lass,' as they are termed. Her figure was slight and very tall; her hair and complexion dark as a brunette; her eyes were of a deep blue, yet when they were cast upon the ground, so long and black were the fringes that overhung them, that a casual observer would have declared them of the same colour as her hair. She was simply attired, and stood in an easy, graceful attitude beside the children: now caressingly curling their long fair locks round her fingers; now gently stroking the smooth skin of the kangaroo-dog."

Some of the bush-ranging tales have a dash of wildness about them, which it requires some credulity to accept as true; or at least we suppose they refer to traditional times of the colony, before the population had multiplied, and an effective police was organized. But they are doubtless correct memorials of earlier periods of the history of the country. The following sketch of actual life is of more practical interest, forming the introduction to a chapter entitled 'Diggers' Stories round the Bush Fire:—

"Three years have gone, and it is now February, 1853.

"Scene—In the bush.

"Time—Sunset.

"*Dramatis personæ*—Some half-dozen gold-diggers, seated round the remnants of a bush fire for companionship's sake, although it is the middle of February, and the thermometer is 98° in the shade.

"If you could have looked at them, gentle reader, there would have been no need to announce their 'profession.' The dark blue serge outer shirts—the wide-awakes—the short pipes—the unshaven faces—the tin dishes and panicans from which they had eaten and drunk—the leather belt, with fossicking-knife or hatchet—the swags, large tin gold-washing dishes, and a dismembered cradle upon the ground, would have revealed a party of gold-seekers without one descriptive word.

"The time was, as I have said, sunset; and the west was one mass of crimson clouds, that towered above one another like burning mountains pregnant with heat and light. Gradually and slowly they fell beneath the horizon; faster came the darkness; the shadows of the gum-trees grew gigantic in their length; and the fire, round which the diggers reclined, seemed to burn out more brightly than before, whilst its flickering flames shed a ruddy glow upon their weather-beaten countenances.

"Either the trees are walking," said one, "or we shall have some fresh mates to-night;" and, as he spoke, he pointed to some shadows which advanced towards them.

"The speaker had been a strolling actor, and, as the foremost of the three approaching figures was within ear-shot, he hailed him with the impromptu parody—

"Is it a digger that I see before me?"

"A hearty burst of laughter followed the speech; the effect of which—taking into consideration the wild scene, and still wilder-looking audience, the grotesque attitude of the speaker, and the pompous manner he flung into the words—was ludicrous in the extreme.

"Jim Nisbet, I'll bet a nugget!" cried the new arrival, in a voice quickly recognised by the other; and with few preliminaries the three weary pedestrians were invited to avail themselves of the fire and join their party for the night. They eagerly accepted the friendly offer, and were soon fully occupied in that necessary, but most unromantic, part of our existence—eating. To judge by their appetites, they had fasted long; and, after this had been somewhat appeased, they explained their situation, which was very simple.

"They had been at one part of the diggings, and had laboured without success; they had heard of wonderful discoveries farther north, had determined to go there, and for that purpose had started early in the morning; but, having soon lost their way, they had wandered about, they knew not where, till the sight of the fire had directed their steps towards the other diggers.

"And where, then, did you want to go?" inquired one with the nasal twang of the Yankee.

"Eagle Hawk Gully, or, maybe, beyond it."

"Ah, I've heard that's a used-up place; we're going farther on, I guess. Where do you come from?"

"Fryer's Creek."

"And what now might you be taking a day?" pursued the interrogator.

"That's hardly a fair question; sometimes much, sometimes little."

"But never enough, I warrant," observed another. "It's a strange thing, if I get six ounces in one day, I'm disappointed if I don't get more the next; and I believe, if I was to pick up a nice nugget of five or six pounds, I'd be expecting the day after to do the same, and cursing my bad luck if I didn't; and in England I've often slaved for a shilling a day. What craving, unsatisfied mortals we are!"

"The speaker, who was a thin, wiry-looking little man of perhaps two score, here threw himself upon the ground, as if the effort of philosophising had been too much for him.

"Your own fault, Sam, if you slaved in England. You should have come to our free enlightened country—there's no slavery there," said the American.

"I thought," observed a young man, one of the new arrivals, "that slavery existed to a greater extent in America than in any other country."

"Stranger!" replied he, taking his pipe from his mouth, and surveying the young man from head to foot, as if astounded at his audacity, "I don't take niggers into consideration when I'm addressing free men."

"Oh!" rejoined the other, and relapsed into silence.

"But the natural inquisitiveness of the Yankee overcame his indignation.

"Is that dog yours, stranger?" said he.

"Yes."

"What's his name?"

"Captain."

"What's his price?"

"He's not for sale," replied Leonard, curtly.

"No need to grow bilious about it," said the American, coolly; "I suppose this is a free land, and I suppose, therefore, I may ask the price of any dog I fancy, without being looked at as if I wasn't a native of the most free and enlightened country in the world, and raised under the stars and stripes."

"I tell you what," interrupted Sam, "we none of us look inclined for sleep, but I'm sure, if you're going to argufy about that blessed America, as you did last night, you'll soon send us off. Now, I've often been in the bush before, and with a pleasant lot of us too, and we've sat round a fire like this, and told stories one after another half the night through, with something to moisten one's throat between whiles, and the comfort is, any one can go to sleep as likes, except the one as is in turn giving us a yarn."

"Well! I'll begin," said one of Leonard's mates, "if you'll all promise to do the same."

"Agreed, agreed," cried several voices, and the gold-digger commenced."

In the second volume, Mrs. Clacy gives some remarkable details as to the aboriginal natives of Australia. They figure conspicuously in some of the tales; but we extract the following paragraphs from an introductory chapter, in which various facts relative to their habits and manners are collected:—

"I have heard some intelligent colonists remark that the low condition of the aborigines may perhaps be traced to the peculiar state of the country they inhabit. There is nothing indigenous like rice or corn—no grain; so that the greater portion of their life and ingenuity is devoted to the capture of the kangaroo and other animals. Instead, therefore, of their mental organs being called into action by a variety of wants, objects, or pursuits, the necessity for invention or construction has been lessened, and their whole energies concentrated upon the one great object of their existence—the chase. This must degrade man to a mere creature of instinct; and to such a state the aborigines of Australia appear reduced."

"As regards the religion of the natives, I believe their principal belief is in an evil spirit, of which they have a great dread, imagining that it walks about of a night; and they therefore avoid, when dark, the vicinity of their burial-grounds. These burial-grounds I have attempted to describe elsewhere. They frequently burn the aged dead; and should a woman die, having a young infant, the living child is buried with the mother. The name of the dead is never mentioned; and any one in the same tribe, having a similar name, is obliged to take another."

"The priests, or *koradjee*-men, are looked up to with great veneration, and practice sorcery and charms, by which they pretend to cure the sick."

"They have many peculiar rites and ceremonies, differing considerably in the various tribes. Of these, the principal in the *kebarrah*: it is the ceremony of installing the boys of the tribe into

the dignity of the warrior. It takes place when they are about twelve years old; and the most important operation is that of knocking out the front tooth, which is generally done in the following way:—The gum is lanced: against the tooth is placed a hard stick, which is struck at the other end by the operator with a large stone; hence the name of the ceremony, *keba*, signifying a rock or stone. In some tribes, they cut the arms and chests of the youths in stripes, and inflict wounds on each shoulder with flints, and if the least groan or slightest expression of pain is uttered during the torture, the victim is considered unfit for the society of men, can never become a warrior, and is degraded to the position of a companion for the women and children. Between the ages of eight and sixteen, the noses of the young of both sexes are bored, in order to receive a bone or reed.

"The *corroborry* dance is now so well known as to require no description. It is usually held when the moon is full.

"The aboriginal method of courtship would not be admired by white ladies. The native, having determined on his future spouse—who is generally selected from another tribe—steals upon her secretly when she is at a little distance from her protectors, and stuns her by striking her with a wooden club or wattle, and then drags her away to his own tribe. This is often the cause of their going to war.

"Naturally, the natives wear no clothing; but, if any article of dress be given them, they are proud to array themselves in it. The manner in which they wrap a blanket around them, fastening it over one shoulder, is very graceful. The women are exceedingly susceptible to gay colours—I suppose the nature of the sex is the same in all climes—and accept a bright pocket-handkerchief or a few beads with as much delight as an English girl would receive a Parisian bonnet, or a souvenir from Howell and James's."

"The greatest passion of the aborigines is revenge; and, even if one of them dies a natural death, they fling spears at one of his friends until blood appears: hence their universal hostility to the white man; they can never forget nor forgive the atrocities perpetrated upon them by some of the early settlers, who at one time used to hunt them down like wild beasts, and fire at any they came upon, however inoffensive they might be."

"The natives are now of some use at many of the stations, and often make very good servants. Some of them are beginning to understand a little the value of money, which at one time they thoroughly despised. At the first discovery of the Turon and Macquarie diggings, they sat beside the water, indolently watching the busy white men; and, I dare say, intensely despising them for taking so much labour to procure what was neither useful for food nor hunting."

"There are many speculations as to the origin of the natives. Many of their words appear to have been derived from the Persian and Hindostanee. I will give an example of each from Mr. Angus's interesting memorandum on the subject. *Gong*, in Hindostanee, signifies a village or settlement; *mitta* (sweet), *gong* (village). *Mitta gong* is a favourite native name in Australia for a camping place. Many other native Australian names end in *gong*, as Wollon Gong, &c."

"The Persian of 'where?' is *koo*—of 'where are you?' is *koo-i*. The native call in the bush is the well-known 'coo-ee.'"

"Thus, it would appear that the Australian aborigines have some trace of an Eastern origin; but at what time, or in what manner, the migration took place is an unsolved mystery."

"The features of the aborigines are not pleasing, being very coarse. Their lips are thick, with flat noses and low receding foreheads. They are not, generally speaking, tall or well made, neither are they particularly strong: their going about in such numbers alone makes them dangerous. They are quick at catching up English words. Having a most imperfect knowledge of *meum* and *tuum*, they

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are still often a great nuisance to some of the settlers in the interior, as, unless well watched, they will take anything they have a fancy for in the coolest manner possible."

Apart from the local and practical information to be derived from Mrs. Clay's sketches of Australian life, they will be read with interest, as containing shrewd and entertaining observations on character, and the tales are told with unusual tact and liveliness.

#### NOTICES.

*Original Reflections and Conversational Remarks, chiefly on Theological Subjects.* By J. E. Gordon, Esq. Nisbet and Co.

THE name of Mr. J. E. Gordon was familiar to the public some years back as a platform speaker and a zealous champion of Protestantism. In his ecclesiastical and political tours he must have been brought into contact with much variety of life and character, and possessing a tenacious memory, aided by note-taking, he collected many anecdotes and observations, and now publishes his commonplace book, with copious reflections and meditations of his own on all manner of subjects. The sterling principle and pious feeling of the worthy author are to be respected, but his book is not to be commended on the ground of its literary merits. The following are average specimens of the style of the 'thoughts.' *The Great Exhibition.*—The Great Exhibition presented a gorgeous display of the flowers of art and science, bedded out in national variety, to enable the bees of industry to compare and hybridize related species, and thus improve the flora of the world." *The Anglican Ritual.*—"After collecting in one great focal lens of burning devotion, not merely the necessities of the Church in all her extension, but the classified wants of humanity in all their variety, it reflects the concentrated aggregate upon the mercy-seat, and prompts a response as universal as the moral, the spiritual, and the physical necessities of our race." Many of the thoughts are just and striking, though the expression of them may be given in somewhat familiar terms, as where it is said, "Passion is to the understanding what gunpowder is to the artillery; it sends home the projectiles of intellect to their destined mark. The ordinance may be excellent, the missiles destructive, the aim correct; but if the powder be scanty in quantity or bad in quality, the execution will be comparatively powerless." There are upwards of three hundred separate thoughts, and to those who will overlook certain peculiarities of opinion and of style, the book will afford both entertaining and profitable reading.

*The Philosophy of the Infinite: with Special Reference to the Theories of Sir William Hamilton and M. Cousin.* By Henry Calderwood. Constable and Co.

THE discussions in this volume relate to subjects in which too small a number of our readers probably take interest, to render it advisable to give more than a brief notice of the work. In metaphysical terminology the words Infinite, Absolute, and Unconditioned, are synonymous, and the opinions concerning what is thus designated as subject to no limits or conditions, are thus classed by Sir William Hamilton. 1st, the Unconditioned is unrecognisable and inconceivable, its notion being only negative of the Conditioned, which last can alone be positively known or conceived; 2nd, it is not an object of knowledge, but its notion, as a regulative principle of the mind itself, is more than a mere negation of the Conditioned; 3rd, it is cognisable but not conceivable—it can be known by a sinking back into identity with the Absolute, but it is incomprehensible by consciousness and reflection, which are only of the relative and the different; 4th, it is cognisable and conceivable by consciousness and reflection, under relation, difference, and plurality. The first, Mr. Calderwood observes, is the opinion maintained by Sir William Hamilton himself; the second is that adopted by Kant; the third is the doctrine of Schelling; and the fourth

is that of M. Cousin. The opinions of Kant and of Schelling the author thinks untenable and self-contradictory, and he chiefly confines his inquiry to the views of Hamilton and Cousin, which the author thinks partly reconcilable. We cannot enter on any detailed notice of the questions under discussion, but we commend Mr. Calderwood's treatise to the notice of those who are interested in these metaphysical inquiries.

*The Guide and Companion to the Lessons on Art.*

By J. D. Harding. Day and Son.  
*Lessons on Art.* Second Edition. By J. D. Harding. Day and Son.

MR. HARDING, whose experience and high reputation in the art of drawing are a guarantee for the soundness of his teachings, has published an admirable new edition of his 'Lessons on Art,' of more portable dimensions and of less expense than the original work, illustrated with an entirely new set of drawings, one hundred and twenty-seven in number; and with it he has produced a 'Guide and Companion,' uniform in size, copiously illustrated also with plates and wood-engravings. He appeals to the judgment of the pupil rather than to his powers of imitation, commencing with the mechanical practice of art, and concluding with its æsthetic and more recondit study. "Unless Art be studied, and then Nature," says the author, "a great proportion of the human intellect must remain 'in Lethe drowned.'" Mr. Harding treats his subject with a great deal of poetic enthusiasm, but does not at the same time lose sight of the practical in his elementary teaching; and we commend his treatises to the diligent study of all those who wish to be grounded in the right principles.

#### SUMMARY.

SELECTED from the columns of the 'Press' newspaper, a series of political pieces, chiefly squibs on passing topics, in prose and verse, is given under the title of *The Coalition Guide* (Ward and Lock). The number of the 'British and Foreign Evangelical Review' for September (Johnstone and Hunter) contains, along with various able critical reviews and notices of the theological literature of the day, a very interesting paper on *Preaching and Preachers*, or the 'pulpit in ancient and modern times.' This article is reprinted from the 'Princeton Review,' and there are other American reprints in the number.

A second edition is published of *Practical Illustrations of School Architecture* (Trübner and Co.), by Henry Barnard, Superintendent of Common Schools in Connecticut. The work not only describes school architecture, including heating, lighting, and ventilation, but gives ample directions as to the best and most improved internal arrangements of the school-house down to such details as seats and inkstands.

A neat and convenient pocket edition is published of *Milton's Paradise Lost and Paradise Regained*, with explanatory notes by the Rev. J. Edmonstone (Nelson and Sons). The notes are partly selected from well known commentators, and are generally useful and appropriate. The typography of the volume is remarkably good.

Of the new edition of the *History of England* by Hume and Smollett, with Continuation by the Rev. T. S. Hughes, late Canon of Peterborough (G. Bell), the seventh volume contains the history of the reigns of William and Mary, and Anne. The work is illustrated with engravings, and to this volume is prefixed a biographical memoir of Smollett.

The Rev. Erskine Neale, who seems to have the pen of a ready writer on any subject, has written a collection of military anecdotes and narratives, under the title of *My Comrades and My Colours* (Trübner and Co.). The tales are derived from such works as the 'Life of Pictou,' of 'Sir Sidney Smith,' of 'Sir David Baird,' Napier's 'Peninsular War,' Shaw's 'History of the British Legion.' The object is to illustrate the evils of war, but at the same time to show how some of the finest feelings of human nature are in war called forth,—courage,

patience, reliance on Providence, humanity to the fallen, devotion to a cause, patriotism, equanimity in adversity, and moderation in the hour of victory.

In the Annotated Edition of the 'English Poets,' edited by Robert Bell (John W. Parker and Son), the last volume contains the *Works of John Oldham*, with a biographical and critical memoir. The violence and indelicacy of some of Oldham's works have caused his name to disappear from many of the collected editions of English poets, but there is much that deserves to be studied, and the high tribute paid by Dryden to his merits has been sustained by Mr. Hallam, who says, "Oldham, far superior in his satires to Marvell, ranks perhaps next to Dryden." The satires on the Jesuits are not without pointed application to the intrigues and crimes of the order in our own day.

A new edition of Stanford's translation of *Plato's Phædo* is published at New York, (Gowans, New York; Trübner, London,) to which is added a catalogue of all the works known to have been written on the immortality of the soul. Except for intellectual recreation, one page of the New Testament is worth the whole library of these speculative and philosophical disquisitions, and even Plato's 'Phædo' is tame and flat when not read in the glowing and lovely language of the original.

A volume of prophetic speculation, *The Apocalypse Revealed; or, an Answer to the Apocalyptic Sketches of Dr. Cumming*, by the Rev. P. S. Desprez, B.D. (Longman and Co.), displays much laborious study fruitlessly thrown away. Dr. Cumming's popular sketches are taken almost wholly from the work of Mr. Elliott, whose historical accuracy has been by various writers shown to be not wholly trustworthy. Mr. Desprez's statements and arguments will please those who like to puzzle themselves with subjects, the full understanding of which is necessarily hid until revealed by the course of time and the evolution of events in the Divine government of the world.

Of the *Exposition of the Grammatical Structure of the English Grammar*, by John Mulligan, which we noticed at the time of its appearance, an abridgement is prepared by the author for the use of schools (Simpkin, Marshall, and Co.). There are many ingenious remarks and clear statements in Mr. Mulligan's book, which is, however, more adapted for advanced pupils and for instructors, than for general use in junior classes. It is a work from which teachers and tutors will obtain most useful practical hints for giving instruction either to English pupils or to foreigners.

Under the title of *Christianity Viewed in some of its Aspects*, a religious treatise, by the Rev. A. L. R. Foote (Edmonstone and Douglas, Edinburgh), contains sensible and striking views on the Christian life and character, arranged under the heads of Christianity a Life, a Work, a Reward, a Culture, a Discipline, a Fellowship.

In Nelson's Shilling Library (Nelson and Sons), the last number contains the tale, *The Flower of the Family*. Several popular tales, English and American, have appeared in the series.

In Chambers's Educational Course (R. and W. Chambers), a new edition is printed of an old familiar Latin school-book, *Ruddiman's Rudiments*, which has for more than a century been a universal primer in learning the Latin language in Scottish schools. The Latin rules and many portions of the work are omitted, which in our schoolboy days we would gladly have dispensed with, but which we miss in now looking on the book as a literary reminiscence. We doubt whether these attempts to make learning easy will tend to real improvement in classical education.

#### LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

Audin's Luther, translated by W. Turnbull, Esq., 2 vols. 14s.  
Book (The) and Its Story, 6th edition, crown 8vo, cloth, 4s.  
Bretton's Lectures on Christian Faith and Life, 7s. 6d.  
Burns's Egypt, Vol. 2, 8vo, cloth, 41 1/2s.  
Burns's (Jabez) Sermons for the Sick Room, post 8vo, 5s.  
(R. S.) Steam Engine, 8vo, cloth, 3s.  
Campbell's Lives of British Admirals, cheap edition, 2s.  
Carpenter's (W. R.) Comparative Physiology, 4th ed., 41 1/2s.  
Christmas's Lives of the Emperors of Russia & Sultan, 1s. 6d.  
Cooper's (F.) Bravo, 12mo, boards, 1s. 6d.

Desprez's (Rev. P. S.) *Apocalypse Fulfilled*, 12mo, 8s. 6d.  
 Dewar's (D.) *Divine Revelation*, 2nd edition, 8vo, 7s. 6d.  
 Eadie's *Biblical Cyclopedia*, 5th edition, 8vo, cloth, 7s. 6d.  
 Edgeworth's *Popular Tales*, 12mo, cloth, 3s. 6d.  
 Encyclopædia Metropolitana, Vol. 12, 3rd edition, 8s. 6d.  
 Five Dramas by an Englishman, post 8vo, cloth, 7s. 6d.  
 Garbett's (E.) *Sermons for Children*, square 12mo, cloth, 2s.  
 Goudmother (The), post 8vo, cloth, 5s.  
 Hawker's *Instructions to Young Sportsmen*, new ed. £1 1s.  
 Knight on Scriptural Predestination, 8vo, cloth, 5s.  
 Lingard's *England*, Vol. 5, 12mo, cloth, 3s. 6d.  
 Malcolm's (R.) *Curiosities of Biography*, 12mo, cloth, 2s. 6d.  
 Milner's (Rev. T.) *Baltic*, post 8vo, cloth, 10s. 6d.  
 Montardie and Maugour's *Histoire de France*, 12mo, 3s. 6d.  
 Murgaud's *New French Method*, 3rd edit., 12mo, cloth, 4s.  
 Nottingham's (J.) *Conical Cornua*, &c., 8vo, cloth, 6s.  
 Oldmixon's *Gleanings from Piccadilly to Pera*, p. 8vo, 10s. 6d.  
 Pemberton's (R.) *Happy Colony*, post 8vo, cloth, 7s. 6d.  
 St. John's *A Voice from the East*, post 8vo, cloth, 5s.  
 Shittler's *Domestic Commentary*, 2 vols. £2; 4 vols. £2 2s.  
 Shoeller and Medlock's *Manual of Physical Science*, 5s.  
 Starbuck's (W. G.) *Last Days of Disarth*, cr. 8vo, cloth, 6s.  
 West's (C.) *Discusses of Infancy*, 3rd edition, 8vo, cloth, 1s.  
 Willmott's (R. A.) *Precious Stones*, 12mo, reduced, 2s. 6d.

## THE ARCTIC SEARCH.

THE Arctic navigators, whose return to this country we announced last week, in a telegraphic despatch from Cork to the Admiralty, have, we are glad to find, brought some intelligence of Capt. Collinson, of the *Enterprise*, though not of a very recent date. It appears that Lieut. Meham, of the *Resolute*, and Capt. Kellett undertook a most extended and perilous overland search in the spring of the present year, and at Princess Royal Islets and Ramsay Island discovered the following records, deposited by Capt. Collinson in April and May, 1852:—

"Records found at Princess Royal Islets by Lieut. Meham, 1st of Her Majesty's Ship *Resolute*, in the spring, 1854.

"Her Majesty's ship *Enterprise* rounded Point Barrow in the pack on the 26th of July, 1851. Got into open water on the American shore on the 30th, along which she proceeded until the 21st of August, when two islets were discovered east-north-east of the Polly Islands. Captain Parry was seen on the 26th, and on the same evening a bold bluff, in lat. 71° north, longitude 122° west. Standing to the north-east along this shore, she entered a strait on the 29th, in which, on the following morning, in lat. 72° 55' north, long. 127° 10' west, two islets, with a beacon on the largest, were seen. Here we found a boat, with 37 casks of provisions, deposited by the *Investigator*, which vessel had wintered in the pack, four miles east-north-east of these islets.

"During the autumn a travelling party from her reached the north end of the straits, in 73° 35' north, and 115° west. The last date from her is June the 1st, when all were well. "Travelling parties had been exploring north and south. The latter had fallen in with the natives, who were described as inoffensive people.

"Captain McClure named the southern shore Prince Albert's Land; northern shore, Baring's Island; the straits, Prince of Wales; and the islets, Princess Royal. "The *Enterprise*, proceeding up the strait, which varies from 10 to 20 miles in width, reached the north end of it on the 31st, and on the southern shore found a cylinder, deposited by the *Investigator*'s travelling party, dated on board the ship, April 21, 1851. Finding the entrance blocked by ice, returned along Baring's Island, rounding Cape Erebus (Nelson's Head of McClure) on the 2nd of September, and on a low point in 72° 1' north, and 125° 10' west, a cask was found, with intelligence of the *Investigator*, dated August 18, 1851. She left Prince of Wales' Straits on the 10th. All well.

"The *Enterprise*, proceeding northerly, landed on an island in 72° 55' north, and 125° 10' west, and deposited 20 days' provisions for eight men. Not finding any suitable place for winter quarters, returned to where she now lies, in lat. 71° 35' north, long. 117° 39' west, at the east side of the entrance of Prince of Wales' Straits.

"R. COLLINSON, Captain."

"Record found on Princess Royal Islets.

"This post was erected by Her Majesty's ship *Investigator*; wintered in the pack off it in 1850-51, and then pursued her way to the westward.

"The strait was visited on the 30th of August, 1851, by the *Enterprise*, who pursued the same course.

"This post was visited by travelling parties from Her Majesty's ship *Enterprise* and another; traced the north coast of Prince Albert's Land, and found a deep inlet, or strait, 80 miles to the south-east of the mark erected by the *Investigator*.

"At the north end of the straits another party, which has not yet returned, went across with orders to reach Melville Island if possible. We have taken 30 lbs. of preserved meats, a case and a half of potatoes, half a cask of sugar, half a cask of cocoa, and seven gills of rum.

"May 29, 1852."

"R. COLLINSON, Captain."

"Record found on Princess Royal Island.

"Her Majesty's ship *Enterprise* reached the east end of Prince of Wales' Straits on the 30th of August, 1851, and found the sea closely packed off the mouth of the straits, and, not finding suitable winter quarters, she will be found near the south-west end of Baring's Island, or, if there is no harbour there, in the bight of Prince Albert's Land, 70 miles south of this island. All well on board.

"R. COLLINSON, Captain."

"Her Majesty's ship *Enterprise*, Winter Quarters, lat. 71° 03' north, long. 117° 39' west, 1851-52.

"We wintered here, arriving on September 14, and were finally frozen in October 24. In the interval several natives visited the ship, eventually leaving us on the 9th of November. They are a quiet people, but have little to spare. Needles, knives, and saws are the articles principally in requisition.

"Almost throughout the whole of the winter we obtained hares, ptarmigan, &c. The weather has been exceedingly mild; the monthly average never below 20°. Little or no sickness has occurred, and we are in fit condition for hard work. Travelling parties will start early in April—one following the coast southerly: the others will pass through Prince of Wales' Strait, and then part, one for Melville Island, if possible, and the other along the north side of Prince Albert's Land, in search of the missing expedition.

"Intelligence respecting the movements of the *Enterprise* will be deposited on an islet (10 feet magnetic north of a mark) in lat. 71° 49' north, long. 119° west, subsequent to the return of the travelling parties.

"April 15, 1852."

"R. COLLINSON, Captain."

"Record found on Ramsay Island.

"The provisions on Princess Royal Island were safe on the 29th of May, except what our travelling parties consumed.

"The *Resolution* sledge parted company on the 4th of May for Melville Island, and has not yet returned. All well, and no traces of missing expedition.

"I shall proceed southerly, along Prince Albert's Land, immediately I am extricated."

"Found on Ramsay Island.

"Her Majesty's ship *Enterprise*, Aug. 27, 1852, lat. 71° 25', long. 119° 5'.

"We left our winter quarters at the eastern end of this bay on the 5th inst., and have been prevented by the ice from any progress until this day. It is my intention to pursue the channel separation, Wollaston, from Prince Albert's Land, the entrance to which is in lat. 70° 35' north. Hitherto the ice has been close in with the shore, nor have we been able to turn its western edge by pursuing a westerly route along the south end of Baring Island. All well.

"R. COLLINSON, Captain."

Captains Sir Edward Belcher and Kellett have been compelled to leave their ships in the ice; the former has left the *Assistance* and tender in Wellington Channel, about forty miles from Beachey Island, and the latter the *Resolute* and tender in lat. 74° 42', long. 101° 22' west, twenty-eight miles south-west of Cape Cockburn. A number of stores have been deposited at Beachey Island, on the chance of Capt. Collinson falling in with them, but when we consider what has been the lot of Capt. McClure and of the ships of the very last searching squadron, how utterly faint is the hope that the gallant Collinson and his crew will escape the fate of Franklin. It will be for the Admiralty to consider whether or not the *North Star*, or some other vessel, should now be navigated back to Beachey Island, there to wait in dépôt, for a time, on the chance of a rescue.

Göttingen, Sept. 29.

MEETING OF GERMAN NATURALISTS AND PHYSICIANS.

(Report continued from p. 831.)

SECTIONAL MEETINGS.—TUESDAY, SEPT. 19.

SECT. 1. *Medicine and Physiology.*

President—Geheimrath Lichtenstein, Berlin.

PROF. HUSCHKE (Jena), read a paper 'On the Convolutions of the Brain, and their gradual Development in the different Classes of Animals up to that of Man, according to Age, Sex, and Race.'

Prof. Luschka (Tübingen), 'On the Structure of the Membranes covering the Cerebral Cavities.'

D. Welcker (Giessen), 'On Investigations of the Modifications of the Coloration of the Blood.'

SUB-SECT. *Anatomy.*

President—Geheimrath Lichtenstein.

Geheimrath Lichtenstein exhibited six plates forwarded by Dr. Schulze, of Greifswald, representing the numerous species of Foraminifera which he had investigated. The list has not yet appeared.

Prof. Leuchart, of Giessen, read a paper 'On the Production and Development of the Fins,' after which Prof. Gurlt reported the investigation which he had made on the same subject.

Geheimrath Lichtenstein communicated a Memoir forwarded to him by Dr. Schiff, of Frankfurt, 'On an Accessory Arterial Heart in Rabbits.'

SECT. 2. *Botany, Agriculture, Forestry.*

President—Prof. Treviranus, Bonn.

Prof. Griesbach (Göttingen), read a communication 'On some of the more remarkable Plants

collected by Philippi and Lechles in the most southern parts of Chili and the Straits of Magellan.' He opposed the views that certain Arctic and Antarctic plants which have come into existence independently of each other, can belong to the same species. He endeavoured to refer the family of *Flacotianaceæ* to that of the *Hamulaceæ*, claimed an affinity between the *Illiciaceæ* and the *Cornaceæ*, and deduced from *Mounina* the connexion between *Krameria* and *Polygala*. He then proceeded to establish the systematic position of several genera by referring *Lepuropetalum* to the *Crassulaceæ*, *Derfontania* to the *Gentianeæ*, and *Aextonicus* provisionally to the *Eleagneæ*; and after other similar explanations, exhibited the new forms in the above-mentioned collections.

Prof. Braun, of Berlin, addressed the meeting on the subject of the oblique direction of the fibres, and the consequent twisting or contortion of the trunks of trees, and exhibited preparations illustrating his views. He endeavoured to show that the twisting of the wood and cortical fibres was not an accidental circumstance, but universal in the case of certain trees. That in certain trees they always preserved the same direction, but in others assumed, at a certain age, the contrary direction. He concluded by endeavouring to give an anatomical explanation of the phenomenon, in consequence of the longitudinal wood and cortical cells giving way on one side, and thereby producing a diagonal division of the same.

SECT. 3. *Mineralogy, &c.*

President—Prof. Sartorius von Waltershausen.

Ober Berggrath Noeggerath, of Bonn, made a communication 'On the Occurrence of Native Lead and Minium (Mennige) with Lead Glance, found in Veins on the Mountain Popocatepetl, in Mexico,' by Mr. Majorus. He observed that pure minium was hitherto supposed never to occur in mines, but was only found in the refuse, particularly after it had been long thrown out. It occurred in fine crystals and plates on the lead, by which the trachytic blocks used in the building of the Cathedral of Cologne were fastened together. It had also been found in cavities of basalt on the Meissner, and as such had found its way into most mineralogical cabinets. It turned out, however, that these basaltic blocks had been used to form the foundation of furnaces for melting lead, and could not therefore be considered as evidence of its existence in a natural state. The lead veins of Popocatepetl are very productive; they occur between trachyte and grauwacke. They consist of a little quartz, chiefly lead glance, with large masses of native lead and minium. He then read a notice on pseudomorphism of salt in muschelkalk. They had hitherto been described as quadratic pyramids, having their sides deeply indented in the form of steps. Recent discoveries have enabled him to show that they are not simple quadratic pyramids. They are always found six together, so arranged as to form a perfect cube. As now found they are generally close together, but originally there must have been a thin skeleton of rock salt round, and in the hollow sides of which the limestone was deposited. The salt was subsequently dissolved, and the then remaining space was destroyed by the pressure of the surrounding rock. No trace is ever found of the sides of the cube.

A letter was then read from Prof. Geinitz, of Dresden, describing the work he was about to publish, on the coal formations of Saxony, on the flora of the carboniferous formations, and a comparison of the coal formations of Saxony with those of other countries.

Berggrath Credner, of Gotha, exhibited a new edition of his geological map of the Thüringwald, and the adjacent hill countries to the north and south. He discussed the difficulties of laying down the limits between certain formations; 1st. Between Silurian and Devonian formations; 2nd. How far does the Permian System extend in Thüringia? 3rd. What are the true limits of the Keuper formation?

1st. Richter, of Saalfeld, has separated the

Grauwackesystem into Thonschiefer and Grauwacke schiefer, the former containing no organic remains, with the exception of graptolites, in the upper beds; and these are considered as belonging to Lower Silurian. Above these are beds with clymenia and goniatites, followed by cypridina slates. There then occurs a great gap, and the younger Grauwacke beds are found, forming a large basin, on the southern side of the Thüringerwald. 2nd. The limits of the Permian System have lately been considerably discussed, and doubts raised as to where they should be placed. The author does not agree with the views of Sir Roderick Murchison, who considers that the lower beds of the Bunter sandstein, above the Zechstein, should also be included in the Permian System; the author is of opinion that these lower Bunter sandstein beds should rather be classed with the Trias. 3rd. With regard to the limits of the Keuper, the author questioned the correctness of Prof. Nuestedt's views, with regard to the marly beds between the Lias and the Muschelkalk, in proposing to class the Letten coal with the Muschelkalk, and the upper sandy beds with the Lias. This is a very important point, with reference to the geological map of Germany now being constructed. Prof. Credner thinks that the Letten coal should be separated from the Muschelkalk, and that, in all respects, it rather belongs to the Keuper than to the underlying beds. In its petrographical character it differs altogether from the calcareous and marine character of the Muschelkalk. It contains plants which must be referred to a littoral formation, and which are not found in the Muschelkalk. It is also unconformable to the Muschelkalk in most instances, and in the Thüringerwald contains organic remains, chiefly plants, which are peculiar to it. He is also of opinion that the Lower Lias sandstone of Luxemburg should be classed with the Lias, rather than with the Keuper.

A discussion took place on these points between Herr von Strombeck, Von Carnall, and Professor Merian, in which the latter observed, that all separations of formations were only relative, for the purpose of facilitating our inquiries; that they did not really exist in nature. If we follow almost any given formation along the line of strike, we constantly find not only a change of mineralogical character, but even of organic remains. This occurs both in the Lias and in the Keuper, and the difference is not greater than we find in the present day in different districts; but if we must have a separation, he was of opinion that that of Professor Credner was the most desirable.

Professor von Strombeck then read a paper 'On the Structure and Architecture of the different Formations north of the Harz, and the different Modifications of Form which the Stratified Beds assumed.' He described four principal forms,—1. Saddle-formed beds; 2. One-sided elevations, forming a half saddle; 3. Overappings by faults; 4. Undulatory deflections or contortions where old beds enclose younger ones. While attributing the first to subterranean elevation, he observed that the other forms could only be accounted for by lateral pressure, which might also, perhaps, be the more probable explanation even of the first class of appearances.

Mr. Meyer, of Hamburg, exhibited specimens of Struvit (ammoniacal carbonate of lime), found while digging the foundations for the church of St. Nicholas, in large crystallized masses, on old bricks and in sewers.

Professor Merian, of Basle, then made a communication 'On the San Casciano Beds in Tyrol and Vorarlberg.' The Lias formations are fully developed in the Vorarlberg, and contain numerous fossils, particularly in the Lechthal, or Valley of the Lech, some of which are very characteristic; but the *Gryphaea armata*, a characteristic fossil of the lower Lias, is entirely wanting; while others, including Ammonites (?), peculiar to the lower Lias in Suabia, are abundant. Under these are beds of a new formation, which have scarcely ever been seen anywhere else. The upper bed, which is very thick, is the limestone called Dachstein, from its being used for roofing purposes. It is full

of fossils, particularly corals, and a large bivalve, *Megalodon scutatus* of Schaffentl. Under these, again, are beds of black shaly limestone, long known but wrongly placed; then follow the Gervellian beds of Emmerich, full of fossils, particularly a *Cardita*, resembling *C. crenata*, also *Plicatula intersticta*. These two formations are closely connected, and the uppermost has generally been called Upper San Casciano. Below them are great masses of Dolomite, in which no fossils have hitherto been found. Below the Dolomite are beds of hard sandstone, associated with beds of gypsum, and containing well-preserved impressions of plants, resembling those of the Letten coal, particularly *Equisetum columnare*. This, he considers, belongs to the Keuper. Connected with these beds, or rather under them, are calcareous beds, with very few fossils, and below them again is a red conglomeratic compact sandstone, called Verrucano in Switzerland and Italy. It immediately overlies the crystalline rocks. Such is the order of superposition in the Vorarlberg.

Further eastward, in Tyrol, the Keuper can be well traced, and, under similar general conditions, these beds have been traced as far as Innspruck. In a remarkable section near the Solinen Halle, fossils have been found in a bed immediately adjoining the Keuper, which closely correspond with those of San Casciano. Several bands of sandy limestone full of fossils here occur, alternating with sandstones belonging to the Letten sandstone formation. The Keuper plants are very obscure, but there is no doubt that it is the continuation of the Keuper of the Vorarlberg. *Cardita crenata* is abundant, as also Ammonites, *Johan. Austr. globosus*. These beds are the lower S. Casciano beds, the real S. Casciano beds alternating with Keuper. They overlie the salt beds. The opalizing shelly limestone does not occur here; but in the Lavalscha Valley these beds are still better developed with opalizing marble, containing *Amn. globosus*, and alternating with the lower S. Casciano beds. To the south of the Alps the same order of formation occurs, only the Dolomitic beds have a different appearance, and are not so thickly developed. But under the Lias are the upper S. Casciano beds, and lower down are beds with *Amn. globosus* and *Halavia*. (?) Prof. Merian added, that he had had an opportunity this summer of examining these beds with some of the Austrian geologists, and that they were all agreed with regard to the order of superposition, and that the S. Casciano beds alternate with the Letten coal beds. The only difference between them was one of names. The Vienna geologists, led by the correspondence of some of the shells, as *Terebratula*, &c., considered the upper San Casciano beds as belonging to the Lias, while he considered it better to call the whole S. Casciano beds, as representing a formation which does not occur in Northern Germany, and, moreover, as it would be highly incorrect so to separate them, as to place the calcareous roofing slates in the Muschelkalk, and the Gervillia beds in the Jurassic. The whole formation appears in the East of Europe to occupy the time and age of the land formation in the West; it is essentially a marine formation, and may be considered as a marine Keuper in the East corresponding with the land or terrestrial Keuper of the West. The general result appears to be that the S. Casciano beds are developed in the East of Europe, and that they are the marine representatives of the Keuper.

Prof. Klipstein remarked on the importance of the discovery, but thought that it was still possible that the San Casciano fossils might occur even higher up; they have a great resemblance with many Jurassic forms, and the fossils of the Muschelkalk are often found underlying those of S. Casciano.

Prof. Merian observed that, if the S. Casciano beds were the equivalents of the Keuper, it was quite right that the Muschelkalk fossils should be found under them.

The proceedings in the other Sections were of a special medical character, and uninteresting to the general reader.

W. J. H.

## TOPICS OF THE WEEK.

DR. HERRMANNSEN, an eminent physician and naturalist of Hensburg, Duchy of Schleswig, died on the 19th ult., at Kiel, where he was engaged in some temporary employment for the Director of the Museum of Zoology. Dr. Hermannsen, whose name is familiar among naturalists, as the author of a work of great utility and research, entitled "Index Generum Malacozoorum," has, we regret to learn, died in great poverty, leaving a wife and family wholly unprovided for. The well-known conchologist, Mr. Cuning, who happened to be at Kiel on the day after Dr. Hermannsen's decease, is desirous of raising a small fund among British naturalists for the relief of the distressed widow; and any donations remitted to him for that purpose, at his residence, 80, Gower-street, Bedford-square, will be acknowledged as an act of sincere charity.

M. Victor Place, the French consul at Mossoul, who is charged with the excavations at Khorsabad, reports, under date the 5th August, that he has found a dozen large earthen vessels in the form of casks, each containing from seventy to eighty lines of inscriptions. He has also found a large square vase, on the lid of which is an inscription; and in this vase are sheets of ivory, lead, copper, silver, and gold, each containing inscriptions. It is surmised that the inscriptions are a list of gods in the Babylonian language; but, says M. Place, "savans of more experience than I am must endeavour to decipher them. I am very curious to know," he adds, "what the Assyrians could have to say of so much importance as to require to be written on precious metals."

M. Pagnerre, one of the principal publishers of Paris, has just died at no very advanced age. He published for Lamartine, Louis Blanc, Lamennais, Cormenin, and other distinguished authors; and produced more almanacs, which are an important branch of the trade in France, than any of his *confères*. He took an active interest in all that concerned the publishing business in general, and especially in the measures adopted for obtaining the suppression of literary piracy in Belgium. He was also of some political notoriety, being one of the acknowledged chiefs of the moderate Republican party; and after the Revolution of 1848 he was Secretary of the Provisional Government and of the Executive Commission.

The late Cardinal Mai directed in his will that his vast and most excellent library should be offered for sale to the Pontifical Government at half its estimated value—that is, for 8000*l*. That government has just notified that its finances do not allow it to accept the donation. The library will, consequently, have to be disposed of by public auction. All the biblioplists of Europe will regard the sale with the greatest interest. It is to be hoped that the authorities of the British Museum and of other of our public libraries will not neglect it.

The following are among the announcements of works preparing for publication by Messrs Longman and Co.:—Arago's 'Popular Astronomy,' 'Autobiography, and other Works,' translated by Colonel Sabine, Admiral Smyth, Professor Baden Powell, and Mr. Robert Grant; 'Mountains and Molehills; or, Recollections of a Burnt Journal,' by Frank Marryatt; 'The Life and Travels of Herodotus,' and a volume on 'The Geography of Herodotus,' developed, explained, and illustrated from Modern Researches and Discoveries,' by J. F. Wheeler, F.R.G.S. Messrs. John W. Parker and Son announce a new novel, by the author of 'The Heir of Redclyffe'—'Heartsease; or, the Brother's Wife.' 'The Poems of Edmund Waller' are to form the next volume of the series of 'The British Poets.' Messrs. Low, Son, and Co. are publishing an English edition of 'The Lives of the Chief Justices of the United States of America,' by George Van Santvoord; and a new edition of Professor Dana's 'System of Mineralogy,' revised and partly re-written. In Constable's new 'Miscellany of Foreign Literature,' the second volume is on 'Athens and the Peloponnese; with Sketches of Northern Greece,' from the German of Hermann Hettner. A new novel, by Mrs. Grey, author of

'Mary Seaham'—'The young Husband,' is announced by Messrs. Hunt and Blackett. In the list of Messrs. Hall, Virtue, and Co. are—'Jerusalem Revisited,' by the late W. H. Bartlett. 'The Note-Book of a Young Adventurer in the Wilds of Australia,' by William Howitt; 'A Peep into the Canadian Forest,' by Mrs. Traill. A new and revised edition of 'The Penny Cyclopædia' is to be commenced in December, by Messrs. Chambers. The same publishers announce new issues of 'The Pictorial History of England,' and of 'The Pictorial Bible.' A new series of 'The Edinburgh New Philosophical Journal' is to be conducted under the joint editorship of Professor Edward Forbes and Professor Anderson of Glasgow.

The programme for the winter season of the Edinburgh Philosophical Institution has been published. An Introductory Address is to be delivered on the 3rd of November by Lord Neaves, one of the Judges of the Court of Session. The following courses of lectures will be given during the session, in the order to be subsequently announced.—Historical Section. Period.—Rome under the Empire. "On the Political and Social History of Rome, from the Establishment of the Empire under Augustus, to the Fall of the Western Empire," by Richard Congreve, M.A., Wadham College, Oxford—four lectures. "On the Literature of Rome," by W. B. Hodgson, LL.D.—four lectures. "On the Religion of the Romans and its Connexion with Christian Civilization," by F. D. Maurice, M.A., late Professor of Ecclesiastical History in King's College, London—four lectures. Miscellaneous Section.—"On Philosophy and Education; their Essential Relations to each other," by J. D. Morell, M.A., Author of an Historical and Critical View of the Speculative Philosophy of Europe in the Nineteenth Century—two lectures. "On the Senses," illustrated by Drawings, &c., by J. H. Bennett, M.D., Professor of the Institutes of Medicine in the University of Edinburgh—six lectures. "On the Chamber Music of Mozart and Beethoven," by William Henry Monk, Esq., Director of the Choir, King's College, London; with Vocal and Instrumental Illustrations, under the direction of Mr. Alexander Mackenzie—two lectures. "On the Wild Sports of Scotland," by Patrick Edward Dove, Esq., Author of "The Theory of Human Progress"—two lectures. "On Meteorology," by James Sime, M.A., Lecturer on Natural Philosophy in the University of Edinburgh—two lectures. "On Chemistry, in its applications—1st, to the Necessities of Life; 2d, to the Arts of Life; 3d, to Geology; and 4th, to Agriculture," by James F. W. Johnston, M.A., F.G.S., Professor of Chemistry in the University of Durham—four lectures. "On the Social Condition and Prospects of the Poorer Classes of Europe," by Joseph Kay, of Trinity College, Cambridge, Barrister-at-Law—four lectures. "On the National Novelists of Europe,—viz., Boccaccio, Cervantes, Le Sage, and Richardson," by Charles Cowden Clarke, Esq., London—four lectures. "On Contrasted Shakspearian Characters,—viz., Modesty and Conceit, Obtuseness and Wit," by Charles Cowden Clarke, Esq.—two lectures. Forty lectures in all will be delivered, and a concluding address, by Bishop Terrot, one of the Vice-Presidents of the Royal Society of Edinburgh. It is said, also, that an address will be delivered, if his health permits, by Mr. Macaulay, M.P., who is President of the Institution.

A Bill has been prepared, and will be brought into Parliament next Session, for uniting the two Colleges at Aberdeen, King's and Marischal, so as to form one University. The heads of the bill have been agreed to by the authorities of both colleges, and much unanimity of feeling prevails on the subject. The details of the measure are chiefly of local interest, but the propriety of the proposed union is obvious to all who know the state of Academic arrangements in Aberdeen, and will prove an important step in Scottish University Reform. At present there are double professorships, where no necessity exists, while both colleges are without chairs in

some branches of literature and science, now deemed essential for a complete academical curriculum. By combining the property and revenues of the colleges, by redistribution of the existing professorships, by suppression of certain chairs and the institution of others, the whole arrangements of the university may be brought into a state of greater efficiency. It is suggested that the present Chancellors of the two Colleges, Lord Aberdeen and the Duke of Richmond, shall act during their lives in alternate years. The university is to be divided into four faculties—Divinity, Law, Medicine, and Art. The faculty of Divinity is to consist of Systematic Divinity, Biblical Criticism, Ecclesiastical History, Oriental Languages, and another chair not yet named. The Faculty of Laws is to have three professorships,—that of Civil Law, and two others not named. Medicine has nine professorships, all of which are named. The Faculty of Arts has ten professorships, three of which are not named. The other seven consist of Mental and Moral Philosophy, Natural Philosophy, Logic and English Literature, Mathematics, Greek, Humanity, and Natural History. The division into four faculties is in accordance with established usage in Scotland, but the grouping of so many miscellaneous departments under the Faculty of Arts might have been avoided. The union of Logic and English Literature in one chair is a most incongruous combination, and there must be some mistake in the announcement. Of the chairs to which subjects have not yet been allotted, Political Economy ought to be one. To this branch of philosophy the Scottish universities have always paid great attention, even before the days of Adam Smith. Hitherto the subject has been taken up, in supplemental or occasional lectures, by the Professors of Moral Philosophy. This was done by Dugald Stewart and by John Wilson, at Edinburgh, but the subject deserves in our times a separate professorship. The Philosophy of History ought also to have a chair. We shall look with much interest to the introduction and progress of this Aberdeen University Bill in Parliament.

The Suffolk Institute of Archaeology and Natural History held a general meeting at Ipswich last week. The proceedings commenced with an exhibition of antiquities in the Council Chamber, and the President (the Rev. Lord A. Hervey) followed in an agreeable address, in the course of which he read a letter recently received from Major Bunbury, detailing some interesting discoveries made by the gallant writer in Bulgaria. The objects which most attracted the Major's attention at the camp at Alady were some large rough columns, varying in size, and much honeycombed by time. He had not been able to trace any inscriptions upon them, though they were from nine to ten feet in diameter, and from twelve to fifteen feet in height. They appeared to be more like Druidical than Greek remains; and in the absence of any positive information respecting them, he had come to the conclusion that they were sepulchral monuments. Among the papers read were two by Mr. W. S. Fitch, upon the ancient Corpus Christi Guild of Ipswich, and the election expenses of Sir John Howard in the general election of the 7th Edward IV.; and one by Mr. Phipson, on the celebrated "Sparrow's House;" one by Mr. Jackson, on Little Wenham Hall; and one on Chapel Church, by Mr. Tymms.

During recent alterations in a cellar of a house at the corner of Lambeth-hill, Old Fish-street, Doctors' Commons, some curious vaults have been discovered. They communicate with each other, and the walls are covered with marine shells, fragments of glass, and here and there pieces of quartz crystal, giving these recesses the appearance of a grotto. The roofs are covered in the same manner, and in two of the divisions there remain stone slabs, which appear to have formed cupboards or lockers, being firmly fixed with strong iron clamps. In one of these recesses a marble trough was discovered, which, from its peculiar shape, suggests the notion that it was used for the total immersion of the infant in

baptism. It is much too shallow for the purposes of a bath, and is without ornament, by which its age might be judged. Tradition says the house was once the dwelling of Bishop Bonner. The vaults were, however, probably the scene of Roman Catholic rites, when the priests of the old religion were proscribed, and people were forbidden to harbour them under the heaviest penalties.

The 'Presse' of Paris commenced on Wednesday, in its *feuilleton*, the publication of the Memoirs of Madame George Sand. They are entitled, 'History of my Life.' They excited great curiosity, and as they progress will no doubt attract almost universal attention. The first chapter is all that we have at present before us, and it is almost entirely occupied with general considerations as to the utility of really truthful autobiographies. It had been expected that Madame Sand would relate with more than Rousseau-like fidelity the various incidents of her somewhat agitated life, and would make some rather scandalous revelations. But from the terms in which she concludes her chapter, it appears that she intends to do nothing of the kind. "Let none of those who have injured me," she says, "be alarmed, for I shall not remember them; let no lover of scandal rejoice, for I do not write for him."

The Association for promoting the Repeal of the Taxes on Knowledge have addressed the following letter to the Lord Mayor: "My Lord,—Your valuable communication to the public of the news of the victory in the Crimea, printed on unstamped paper, induces us respectfully to warn you that a similar sheet, if published by your lordship before the expiration of twenty-six days, would be a breach of the newspaper act, which, under a penalty of twenty pounds per copy, forbids any unstamped paper containing news to be dispersed and made public oftener than once during that interval. The Board of Inland Revenue are already sorely puzzled in the performance of their duty; if they neglect to notice illegal publications, the stamped press complain that unfair competition is permitted; if, on the contrary, they threaten to take proceedings, the Attorney-General refuses to prosecute. Do not, my Lord, drive Mr. Timms to desperation, by making him feel it to be his duty bootlessly to threaten the Lord Mayor of London with a prosecution for defrauding the revenue. Let, then, your Chamberlain publish the next despatch; and, should one be wanted weekly, let the two sheriffs take turns: with the co-operation of the twenty-five Aldermen, the public might even be furnished with unstamped news every day, and thus reconcile the most active public usefulness with the newspaper act."

The Cotteswold Naturalist's Field Club have held two meetings lately; one, in August, in Earl Bathurst's park, near Cirencester; the other, in September, at Fortworth park, by special invitation, where the members and their friends were entertained with the greatest hospitality by Earl Ducie. At the first of these meetings, Professor Buckman gave an interesting account of his recent visit to the United States, and described the gigantic and beautiful flora of the districts through which he travelled. At the second meeting, the members of the club divided into two sections, the botanical and the geological, and followed their respective pursuits in the field, much to their satisfaction. In the evening, several addresses on scientific subjects were delivered; among them one, by Dr. Wright of Cheltenham, on "Some Remarkable Fossils from Malta." The President of the Cotteswold Club is Mr. T. B. L. Baker, of Hardwicke Court, whose benevolent exertions in the cause of Reformatory Schools are well known. A general congress of the Naturalists' Clubs in the district is fixed to take place at Worcester, on the 10th instant, on which occasion the Lord Bishop of Worcester will preside. The meeting is looked forward to with great interest by the votaries of natural science resident in the vicinity, and among its chief attractions will be an address by Professor Phillips, Deputy Reader in Geology at Oxford, on "Natural History, and its advantages as connected with the Human Intellect."

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The Norwich Free Library is now fairly "hunched" on its career. The Mayor of Norwich (Sir S. Bignold) has been appointed president; the bishop of the diocese and several noblemen and gentlemen vice-presidents; and an influential committee of management is in course of formation, half being nominated by the Town Council, and the remainder by subscribers and the working classes. On the whole, everything promises well at present; but it must be confessed that Norwich has not hitherto manifested any decided predilection for popular literary institutions. We may add, that the library will be inaugurated in the course of next year.

We learn that Dr. Gray has secured for the British Museum the valuable collection of shells, chiefly land and freshwater, formed some years ago in South America by M. Alcide d'Orbigny, Professor of Paleontology at the Jardin des Plantes, Paris. M. d'Orbigny, during his researches in South America, collected a large number of shells that were not hitherto known, and described and figured them in a grand folio work, published under the auspices of the French Government, entitled, "Voyage dans l'Amérique Méridionale;" and we believe the collection in question contains the types of those figures.

Mr. Peter Tait, Fellow of Cambridge University, Senior Wrangler of the year 1852, has been appointed to the Professorship of Mathematics, Queen's College, Belfast.

It has been at length decided to open the British Museum to the public on Saturdays.

The St. James's Theatre was opened on Monday evening, for the season, with a new drama, *The King's Rival*, by Messrs. Tom Taylor and Charles Reade. The main subject of the play is the love of the Duke of Richmond (Mr. T. Mead) for Frances Stuart (Miss Glyn), then the favoured beauty of the court of Charles II. (Mr. Vandenhoff). With regard to this lady, the Britannia of the copper coinage, some dramatic license is taken; and instead of a light and frivolous trifler, she appears as a most dignified and intellectual heroine. Her problem is how to retain *Richmond*, without so displaying her attachment as to expose him to the enmity of the King. But her efforts for bringing this about are misunderstood by *Richmond*, who is thrown into desperation by her apparent faithlessness, and is even induced to join in a conspiracy against the monarch. *Nell Gwynne* (Mrs. Seymour) here comes in as the good genius of the plot, and not only convinces *Richmond* of the fidelity of *Miss Stuart*, but, through her influence with the King, obtains the pardon of *Richmond*, and the royal sanction to their marriage. Round this main subject many incidents are grouped, and a variety of characters are ingeniously introduced, among whom one of the most conspicuous is *Mr. Samuel Pepys* (Mr. J. Toole), who from time to time delivers odd extracts from his own diary. The play was prodigiously long, occupying about four hours and a half in the performance. It was quite a volume of history. Some of the passages are interesting, and as a representation of life and manners in the court circle of the time of the Restoration, might be instructive to those previously ignorant of that period of history. But really we have had more than enough in recent literature about Charles II. and his times, and have been positively bored with *Nell Gwynne* and *Mr. Pepys*; after the old stories had once more been filtered through the pages of Punch and Peter Cunningham, it is somewhat an adventurous experiment on the patience of the public to bring them all up again on the stage. It certainly shows great poverty of invention in the literary men of the day to keep harping over and over again on these same subjects. Surely there are other periods of English history, which, if not marked by equal picturesqueness of costumes, might afford more striking incidents and more varied characters for the use of the dramatist. The successful reception of the play was much attributable to the goodness of the acting. Mrs. Seymour's *Nell Gwynne* was a bright and cheerful representation. The part of *Miss Stuart* is well adapted to Miss Glyn's peculiar style, the con-

strained deportment and formal declamation of the actress suiting well the character as depicted in the drama. Careful study and high art are displayed by Miss Glyn, but she is deficient in the apparent naturalness which the highest art attains. In her best performances there is something stiff and artificial; which, however, in some parts of the present character is not disadvantageous. Of the other characters little requires to be noticed. Mr. Vandenhoff played the *King* well, and Mr. Mead's *Richmond* was a forcible and well-sustained representation. *Pepys* caused amusement on his first appearance, but becomes stupid and tiresome, and is not a part suited to Mr. Toole's comic strain. The disagreeable part of the wild fifth monarchy man, *Major Wildman*, was energetically rendered by Mr. Stuart; and the disapprobation of the audience at the plague-stricken scene was directed against the bad taste of the authors, not the performance of the actor. The whole play may be praised as a scenic representation of a portion of English history, but we cannot dignify it with the title of a good historical drama. A new farce, by Mr. Charles Selby, *My Friend the Major*, had an unfair chance of success in being produced on the same night; but was favourably received. The fun arises from the awkward position of a fast young gentleman in the custody of a sheriff's officer, in the presence of a country uncle, from whom he had great expectations. As the bailiff, *Weazle* (Mr. Toole), was not to be shaken off, he has to accompany *Frederick Chizleton* (Mr. Cooper) to an evening party and elsewhere as his inseparable friend, *The Major*. The old *Uncle* (Mr. Burt) has no suspicion of his real character, but concludes, from his strange deportment, that his nephew's friend is somewhat eccentric. The literary qualities of the piece are not brilliant, and the best jokes are rather practical than intellectual.

At Drury Lane, Mr. G. V. Brooke has been giving a series of farewell performances throughout the week, previous to his departure for Australia. Whatever hesitation may be felt in applying other adjectives to Mr. Brooke, the epithet of "popular tragedian" cannot be denied to him. His favour is great with the bulk of the playgoing public, as the crowded audiences nightly testify. Of the parts in which he has appeared this week we have been most pleased with *The Hunchback*, in which there is scope for the better forms of Mr. Brooke's acting, with less opportunity for abrupt bursts of boisterous performance. Miss Cathcart's performance of *Julia* was extremely good, and the part of *Helen* was played with much liveliness by Miss Arden, from the Theatre Royal, Dublin, who made her *début* at Drury Lane on this occasion. In Mr. Brooke's Shakspearian representations there were fine passages, which elicited deserved applause, and the offences against taste and propriety were rarer than formerly.

The Princess's Theatre is to be opened on Monday, Oct. 9th, with a new comediotta, *Living too Fast*, is to be produced, and a new drama in three acts, *A Heart of Gold*. The Olympic is also to open on Monday. The Marylebone Theatre opens to-night, with Shakspeare's *As You Like It*.

The theatrical week in Paris has been very unimportant. With the exception of two or three vaudevilles of no great merit, all that we find worthy of notice is the production of a sprightly little one-act opera by Boulanger, at the Opéra Comique—it was quite successful; and the re-opening of the Théâtre Lyrique, with Madame Cabel in *La Promise*. A new five-act play by Scribe is talked of for Rachel, at the Théâtre Française, and it is said that she is also to appear in a one-act comedy by Saint Yvars. At the Gymnase a four-act piece, by Madame George Sand, has been accepted.

Meyerbeer has returned to Paris, and intends, we hear, to pass the winter there, chiefly for the purpose of superintending the getting up of his long promised *Africaine* at the Grand Opéra.

General Alexander Lwoff, the well-known Russian composer, is about to bring out a new opera founded on an episode of the war of 1812.

## PROCEEDINGS OF SOCIETIES.

BRITISH ASSOCIATION.—Section C.—General Observations on the Paleozoic Rocks of Germany, &c. By Sir Roderick Impey Murchison, F.R.S., D.C.L., &c. This communication by Sir R. Murchison was stated to be the general outline of a detailed memoir to be offered by himself and his companion, Professor Morris, to the Geological Society of London; the chief object being to extend the fourteenth chapter of the recently-published work, 'Siluria,' on the 'Primeval Succession in Germany.'

To render his views clear, the author exhibited a large tabular view, in which the order of superposition of all the sedimentary rocks of Germany was given, from the lowest known 'Grauwacke,' in which no fossils have been detected, through an ascending series of Silurian, Devonian, Carboniferous and Permian rocks—the latter overlaid by the Trias or lowest group of the Mesozoic or secondary rocks.

Explaining how his last year's tour on the Continent enabled him to produce the general view which was essential to the publication of his work, and how that occupation alone prevented his being present at the last meeting of the British Association, he first referred to Barrande's remarkable work, the 'Système Silurien de la Bohême.' He briefly sketched how a vast pile of unfossiliferous schistose rocks was succeeded, near Prague, by what M. Barrande termed his 'Zone Primordiale,' with its trilobites, cystids, and orthids—the equivalent of the Alum slates of Sweden, of the Lowest Silurian of North America, as described by Dale Owen and his associates, and of the Lingula flags of North Wales; and how that one was followed by an enormous mass of schists, coarse grits, and quartzites, considered by Barrande from its fossils to be of the Lower Silurian age (Llandoilo and Caradoc).

The only characteristic representative of the Upper Silurian, known in Germany, occurs in this Bohemian tract, where a considerable thickness of shale and three superior limestones represent the Wenlock and Ludlow formations of Britain. Several, however, of the species which in England are typical of the one or the other of these rocks, occur in Bohemia in the same bed—i.e., Ludlow rock forms are mixed up with others in a stratum occupying the place of our Wenlock shale.

In the Southern Thüringerwald, and in parts of Saxony to the east of it, the ascending order from a great unfossiliferous base (chloritic and quartzose grauwacke slate) is succeeded by the Lower Silurian, described as such by Naumann, Geinitz, Richter, Engelhardt, and other native geologists, because it is charged with *Nereites*, *Graptolites*, *Orygia*, including *O. Euchi*, *Trinuclei*, and other Silurian fossils which occur in black slates, with some limestone and shale. Mr. Salter, who has examined the fossils, states that one of the remarkable annelides is identical with a species which Professor Harkness has discovered in the Lammern hills, and that even the *Protograptaria* of the same tract of Scotland occurs also in Thuringia. As several of the species of graptolites of the two countries are identical, there can be no doubt that the Lower Silurian of Saxony is the equivalent of the graptolitic series of Dumfries and Kirkcudbright.

With the fossils above enumerated, the ascending series stops, there being no trace of Upper Silurian, nor even of the Lower Devonian. The Lower Silurian slates are there at once covered progressively by the Upper Devonian—viz., the Cypridina schists and the Clymenia limestone (Kramenzelstein of the Rhine). The latter rocks contain a remarkable number of plants, discovered by M. Richter, of very peculiar forms, and which are about to be described by Professor Unger. They are surmounted by a considerable expansion of the Lower Carboniferous strata—viz., micaceous, brown and yellowish sandstones, with plants well known in deposits of that age.

Near Hof this group contains limestones, with many Producti of species known in Britain and France, as formerly pointed out by Professor

Sedgwick and the author. The Devonian and Lower Carboniferous rocks have been subjected to the same undulations, and are perfectly conformable to each other, and in the southernmost extremity of the Thüringerwald are seen to be abruptly separated from the 'Steinkohl-Gebirge,' composed of grey sandstone and schist, or Upper Carboniferous, which, charged with numerous common coal plants, is overlaid by, and often worked to a small extent under, a very great thickness of the Rohte Todte Liegende (Lower Red Sandstone of England).

The Harz mountains are entirely deficient, both in the unfossiliferous or bottom rocks of Bohemia and the Thüringerwald, and also of the great development of true fossiliferous Lower Silurian exhibited in each of those chains.

The sedimentary rocks of the Harz, which Professor Sedgwick and the author examined together on two former occasions, first in the year 1828, and afterwards in 1839, are so dislocated into fragments, and are so often inverted in position, as explained in a former communication, that their physical order is rarely to be detected amid the confusion which has been produced by the eruption of granites, porphyries, diorites, hyperthene, and other igneous rocks, as well as by the metamorphism which large masses have undergone; the schists and slates having been often converted into massive 'hornstone' around the chief masses of granite. Sir R. Murchison, however, expressed his belief that all the members of the Devonian group of the Rhenish grauwacke of the Germans, from the Spirifer sandstone and slate upward, through the Stringocephalus and Eifel limestone to the upper or Clymenia limestone, are there present, and that these are succeeded by some schists often in the flinty slate of 'Kiesel-schiefer,' by others containing the well-known Posidonomya Becheri of Herborn, whilst rocks of this Lower Carboniferous age occasionally contain a dark limestone with characteristic fossils of the mountain limestone. The comparison, which has been worked out in some detail by M. Adolphe Roemer, who is still occupied in that labour and in completing a map of this highly complicated tract, was in a general sense approved of. In a future communication, however, it will be suggested that one of the opinions of M. Roemer may prove to be erroneous, and that in reality all the strata in the Harz, including the Wissenbach slates, occupy the same relative positions as in the region of the Rhine.

The chief object of the last visit to the Harz was to determine if certain rocks in its eastern extremity, which have been laid down and mapped as Silurian by M. Ad. Roemer, are really of that age. The Section was reminded that it was just in this tract that Professor Sedgwick and the author anticipated (fifteen years ago) that the oldest rocks of the chain would be found.

The discovery of the fossils which decide the case is due to M. Jasche, of Elsinberg, and M. Bischof, of Mägesprung. In one small boss of limestone (not exceeding ten feet in thickness), and subordinate to the slates on the north-east flank of the mountain, the former has discovered many fossils of the genera *Orthis*, *Terebratula*, *Leptæna*, *Spirifer*, *Pentamerus*, *Trilobites*, &c., some of which are unquestionably British Upper Silurian species; and others, more numerous, are identified with Bohemian fossils described by Barrande from his uppermost stages. At Mägesprung the limestone, subordinate to a great thickness of grauwacke schist and flagstone, was formerly alluded to by Professor Sedgwick and the author, who in their rapid survey could detect no organic remains, except *Encrinites*, though they were aware that *Trilobites* had been found there many years ago by M. Zincken. Looking to the mineral aspect of these schists and limestones, which differ from any others in the Harz, and judging from the fossils, the greater number of which are of types apparently more ancient than those of any known Devonian rock, it is suggested that the grauwacke around Harzgerode (in which limestone protrudes at several other places besides Mägesprung) may be referred

to the uppermost Silurian rock of the Continent, and be placed on the same parallel as one of the highest stages of M. Barrande. The flagstones of this uppermost grauwacke, which have much the aspect of the Arbroath paving stones of Forfarshire, are remarkable in containing a *Calanite* or *Knorria*, which is the largest land plant ever seen by the author in rocks of such high antiquity.

In the Rhenish country Sir Roderick and Professor Morris found that the Wissenbach and Caub slates had been perfectly identified through the brothers Sandberger, by a community of fossils, and that the *Clymenia* had been detected in the *Cypridina* Schiefer of Nassau; thus identifying these rocks with the Kramenzelstein of Westphalia. The most striking new discovery in this region is one with which Sir Roderick regretted he was unacquainted when he published his recent work, 'Siluria';—viz., that the quartz rocks of the Taunus, about whose place in the series so much discussion has taken place, prove to be the youngest of all the hard rocks on the right bank of the Rhine. In their trend to the east-south-east, they part with this highly metamorphosed character, and being regularly bedded and interlaminated with shale, they have there been shown by M. Ludwig, of Nauheim, (in published maps and sections), to overlie the series of Devonian rocks, consisting in ascending order of slates, *Spirifer* sandstone, Wissenbach slates, Eifel limestone, &c. In these overlying quartzites, large plants like *Calanites* have been discovered, and as they lie transversely upon the Devonian rocks, they are probably of the Lower Carboniferous age.

Of the Permian rocks around the Harz and Thüringerwald, Sir Roderick then gave an account, in which he pointed specially to the enormous thickness of their base or bottom rock, of the Rohte Todte Liegende (the Lower Red Sandstone of England). He adverted to the error of supposing that any appreciable amount of coal occurred in this deposit; the mineral, as found at Wettin, Ilmenau, &c., and other places, being in a grey and totally dissimilar matrix, entirely beneath all these red rocks. Rare and partial instances do, however, occur of very thin courses of coal in the Rohte Todte Liegende, the chief of which in Saxony has afforded the remarkable Permian Flora, described as such by Guthrie and Geinitz. On the other hand, at Rotheburg, near Eisleben, these red rocks have been pierced to a depth of about 1200 feet, and at Eisenach, a boring commenced at 800 feet beneath their conglomerate summits, has been made to the depth of 2000 additional feet, the whole in this Lower Red Sandstone, without reaching the carboniferous rocks or any trace of coal.

The characteristic plants of this rock (*Kyffhäuser* and *Eisenach*) are the silicified *Psaronites*. The uppermost beds of Rohte Todte Liegende, of a greyish and light colour, ('*grau liegende*' and '*weiss liegende*'), are exposed in five natural sections on the north-east flank of the Thüringerwald, and where, as in many other localities, they are surmounted by bituminous schists, and the Kupfer Schiefer with its fossil fishes.

The Zechstein offers in its details all those mineral and zoological distinctions which have been pointed out in the works of Sedgwick and King, on the Magnesian limestone and the Permian rocks of England, the chief distinction in Germany consisting in the enormous interpolated masses of gypsum. Sir Roderick then explained why, in proposing the word Permian, from the spread of these rocks over the vast Russian region of Perm, he had further included in this group a certain portion of schistose, and partly calcareous red rocks, which everywhere overlie the Zechstein or Magnesian limestone, and often constitute ridges separated from the 'Bunter Sandstein,' properly so called, or base of the Trias. In this way he considered the Permian (which in Russia, whence he derived the name, has copper bearing sandstones, with plants and conglomerates, far above the Zechstein) to be an under Trias, having the Zechstein limestone intercalated in a great red formation.

Though only indirectly connected with the object

of this communication, the tabular view exhibited the chief divisions of the true German Trias, or base of the Mesozoic or secondary rocks, with its profusion of large Saurians; attention being specially called to the entire change of animal life which is observed in passing from the Permian or uppermost Paleozoic, into this lowest Mesozoic or secondary rock, though the one is perfectly conformable to the other. In short, he demonstrated how in the long lapse of time the primeval animals had dwindled away, and were succeeded by entirely new creations.

In the course of this exposition Sir Roderick called particular attention to the admirable new geological map of the Thüringerwald, by M. Credner of Gotha, in which the minutest lithological distinctions are marked, as well as everything connected with the order of the rocks above the coal, and all the stages of the secondary rocks; it being alone necessary to apply thereto the distinctions of Azoic, Silurian, Devonian, and Lower Carboniferous, all of which are included by that author in two bands of the unmeaning word 'Grauwacke.' In speaking generally of the carboniferous rocks of the continent, Sir Roderick exposed to the Section new plates of a work, by the able Belgian paleontologist, M. de Koninck, illustrating all the forms of shells which have recently been discovered in carboniferous limestone and shale at Bleiberg, in the Carinthian Alps. He alluded to the circumstance of Professor Sedgwick and himself having, twenty-five years ago, first mentioned some striking pieces of large productiæ, well known in Britain, which they found in that locality; but the Belgian professor has much augmented the list in a work about to be published at Vienna, which records the remarkable fact, that out of seventy-five species twenty-five only are new, the remainder, or fifty, being forms identical with those of the same age in Belgium, France, Britain, and America—thus proving the universal diffusion of these ancient marine animals.

After eulogising the labours of Hermann von Meyer, who has now collected materials to prove that the *Archegosaurus* of the coal of Saarbrück, is as true a *Labyrinthodont* Saurian as any one of the Trias, Sir Roderick adverted to a very curious discovery of a richly fossiliferous mass of white and pink Muschelkalk, to the north of Halle, by Dr. Giebel, which Professor Morris and himself visited with that paleontologist, and which, besides characteristic shells of that formation, contains forms never before observed in the central limestone of the Trias.

In commenting upon the spread of the Trias through Europe, the author specially called attention to a letter just received from M. de Verneuil, which announced the discovery of true 'Muschelkalk' in several parts of Spain, accompanied by numerous fossils.

The communication terminated with a general resumé, in which the author directed attention to a map, on which it was shown, that whilst the rocks of the Silurian basin of Bohemia, the Silurian and Devonian trough of Saxony, and the great Paleozoic region of the Rhenish provinces, (composed of Devonian and Lower Carboniferous rocks) had all three a main strike from north-east to south-west, coincident with the major axes of their geographical range, yet that sediments of the same age in the Harz, the North Thüringerwald, and the Riesen-Gebirge, had been thrown by great forces into transverse geographical chains, accompanied by the eruption of granites, porphyries, greenstones, &c., which have not only wrenched the original strata into abnormal directions, but have also remarkably metamorphosed them.

On the Former Probable Existence of Paleozoic Glaciers. By Professor A. C. Ramsay, F.R.S. The author commenced by stating that the theory of the internal heat of this planet having within any of the known geological periods exercised any climatal influence, was gradually beginning to be discredited, and he proposed to show that glaciers and icebergs had existed in these latitudes during a part of the Permian epoch, and that also, in the secondary period, there were traces of

the same actions in some of the beds of the Bunter Sandstone.

In the Permian rocks of the midland counties of England are thick beds of trapoid breccia, occupying a given geological horizon. They are about 100 and 200 feet thick, according to locality, and consist of pieces of greenstone, felsstone porphyry, felsstone, felspathic ash, riband slate, quartz rock, purple and green sandstone and slate, black slate, Silurian limestone, &c. These are not derived from the rocks immediately underlying, but for the most part can be identified with rocks of the Longmynd, and the Lower Silurian slates and igneous rocks, &c. immediately west of, and associated with, the Stiper stones. They are enclosed in a hardened paste of red marl, analogous in some respects to the bould-clay of the Pleistocene epochs. Very few of the stones are well rounded by the action of water. They are mostly angular or sub-angular, and have those peculiarly flattened surfaces common to fragments found in Moraines. They are frequently well polished, and occasionally scratched. They are of all sizes up to two feet nine inches in diameter. Had they ever formed sea-beaches they would probably have been rounded by the action of the waves, and if great marine floods ever existed, driving before them such great masses of debris, the same rounding action would have resulted. Such large blocks of rock are not moved along ordinary sea-bottoms by tidal or other actions; and, considering their size, angularity, polish, occasional scratchings, and the matrix that encloses them, the author believes that they were deposited from icebergs, derived from glaciers that originated in the ancient land of the Longmynds, and overlying Lower Silurian strata west of the Stiper stones. These rocks were once covered unconformably by more than 3000 feet of Upper Silurian rock, and probably by a large part of the Old Red Sandstone besides. These had therefore been removed by denudation before the deposition of the Permian strata. A great fault of more than 3000 feet runs from north-east to south-west, immediately east of the Longmynds. It is a downthrow on the west of later date than the New Red Sandstone, and the range of the Longmynds was therefore from 3000 to 4000 feet higher at the Permian period than now with reference to the existing levels of these formations. Traces of the same glacial action occur in the Bunter sandstone, in a portion of the pebble-beds that lie between the lower and upper variegated sandstone, and also at the base of the white sandstones that underlie the new red marl in the neighbourhood of the Abberley Hills.

*On the Thickness of the Ice of the Ancient Glaciers of North Wales, and other Points bearing on the Glaciation of the Country.* By A. C. Ramsay, F.R.S. The principal object of this paper was to prove that the ice of the greater glaciers of North Wales was about 1300 feet thick; that the valleys of Llanberis, Nant Francon, &c., were, in fact, filled with ice, at least, of that thickness. This was inferred by the height on the walls of the valleys at which polished surfaces, and parallel grooves and scratches were plentifully found following the main direction of the valleys, without reference to the minor lateral valleys. During the subsequent depression of the country to a depth of 2300 feet, the cold still continued, and glaciers on a smaller scale passed out to sea and deposited what may be called marine moraines. Further out at sea, on Mod Tryfan, marine deposits with shells were formed, either contemporaneously with these marine moraines, or during subsequent oscillations of level by the rearrangement of the moraine matter.

After the re-emergence of the land, the drift was cleared out of the greater valleys by a second set of glaciers. These gradually decreased in size, evidence of which may be found in the moraines that occur in the valleys at different levels. In Cwm Glas, in the pass of Llanberis, there are several of these moraines left by a retiring glacier, which finally disappeared in the highest recesses of the valley immediately north of the ridge of Crib-goch.

Section D.—Dr. Redfern read a paper 'On the Na-

ture of the Torbane-hill and other Varieties of Coal.' He introduced the subject by observing that for all commercial purposes we know sufficiently well what coal is, notwithstanding the difficulty of framing a correct scientific definition of it; and that the popular acceptation of ordinary terms ought never to give way in courts of justice before differences of opinion amongst scientific men. He stated that it was his intention to bring before the Section a number of facts observed by himself, of which he believed many to be new and of great importance; and to show that all the facts obtained from geological, chemical, and microscopical investigations point to the same conclusions. The geological position of the Torbane-hill coal he stated to be exactly that of other coals, whilst as to its chemical characters, he quoted from the evidence of Dr. George Wilson on the late jury trial, and produced a number of tables drawn up by Dr. Fyfe, to show that there is no chemical ingredient in the Torbane-hill coal which does not occur in others, and that there is none in other coals which does not occur in it, the proportions of these substances being almost the same in some well-known coals as in that from Torbane-hill. He then showed that the Torbane-hill coal is laminated, and splits with great ease horizontally, like many Cannel coals, and that, like them, it may be lighted at a candle. In all parts of the bed, stigmata and other fossil plants occur in greater numbers than in most other coals. They present themselves on all fractured surfaces either in the form of small angular facets on different planes, or of large surfaces on which very distinct vascular tissue may be easily recognised by a common pocket lens. When the microscopical appearances of a fossil stigmata are compared with those presented by a section taken in the same direction in any part of the bed, they are found essentially similar; which, when taken with the fact that 65½ per cent. of the mass consists of carbon, is good, if not altogether conclusive evidence that the whole bed is a mass of vegetable matter. The author then remarked that the appearances of small blocks of the Torbane-hill and other coals when examined as opaque objects, and of their sections examined with higher magnifying powers, are conclusive as establishing the fact that there are the most decided differences in horizontal and vertical sections, and that these differences are in no wise similar to those presented by sections made in different directions in a piece of wood. Wood consists of fibres and vessels for the most part arranged parallel to each other, so that sections made in the direction of the vessels and fibres, show their sides in the form of striae under low powers, whilst sections made across the fibres and vessels show a number of rings which indicate the position of their ends. Horizontal sections of a bed of coal show a number of more or less circular yellow spots set in a dark mass, in great part composed of fragments of vegetable fibres and membranes, but all vertical sections show elongated yellow spots, separated by dark lines, running in the direction of the laminae of the bed of coal. Had coal possessed a similar fibrous structure to that of wood, of two vertical sections at right angles to each other, one would have shown a fibrous appearance, the other a series of rings, whereas there is never a difference in vertical sections of coal in whatever direction these may be made. Dr. R. especially directed attention to these conclusions, because they are directly opposed to those arrived at in a paper lately published in the 'Transactions' of the Microscopical Society of London. He proved that there is a remarkable difference between horizontal and vertical sections of Torbane-hill coal, by a series of coloured drawings, by magnified photographic representations of them, and by the difference visible to the naked eye in such sections. Sections examined by high magnifying powers show the laminae of the Torbane-hill and other Cannel coals to be made up of rounded yellow bodies, which are flattened in the direction of the laminae, and contain their gassing substance. When the gas has been driven off by heat applied to a thin section, a number of polygonal cavities are left. These are separated

from each other by very definite and consistent septa, many of which appear in the substance of the larger yellow masses, and resemble the walls of vegetable cells. In all parts of the Torbane-hill coal the author found a number of spherical or flattened membranous capsules of a reddish-yellow or brown colour, having tubercles and hairs externally, and smooth within. These vary greatly in size, measuring from  $\frac{1}{2000}$ th to the  $\frac{1}{10}$ th of an inch in diameter. They appear to be spores, such as are commonly found in large numbers in many common coals.

Scalariform tissue, such as exists abundantly in ferns, is also found in large quantity in the stigmata of the Torbane-hill coal, often presenting the most beautiful structure.

The microscopical appearances of the powder and coke of the Torbane-hill coal are exactly such as are presented by those of the Methil and Cople-drae coals.

The author concludes that all our coals may be arranged in a scale, having the Torbane-hill coal at the top and anthracite at the bottom. Anthracite is almost pure carbon, Torbane-hill coal contains less fixed carbon than most other cannel coals; anthracite is very difficult to ignite and gives out scarcely any gas, Torbane-hill coal burns like a candle and yields 3000 cubic feet of gas per ton, more than any known coal, its gas being also of greatly superior illuminating power to any other.

In Dr. R.'s opinion the microscopical characters of coal point to its having been formed on the spot in which we find it, to its being composed of a mass of vegetable tissues, of various kinds, separated and changed by maceration, pressure and chemical action, and to the introduction of its earthly matter, in a large number of instances, in a state of solution or fine molecular subdivision. He knows nothing to countenance the supposition that our coal-beds are mainly formed of coniferous wood, because the structures found in mother coal or the charcoal layer have not the characters of the glandular tissue of such wood, as has been asserted. It appears that the geological, chemical and microscopical characters of the Torbane-hill coal are similar to those of other cannel coals, and that the whole evidence we possess, as to the nature of coal, proves it to have been originally a mass of vegetable matter. The only differences which the Torbane-hill coal presents from others are differences of degree, not of kind. It differs from other gas coals, in being the best gas coal, and from other cannel coals in being the best cannel.

A long discussion followed the reading of the paper. Mr. Brooke and Mr. Bowerbank advocated the view that the Torbane-hill mineral is not a coal; and the latter of these gentlemen said, that it was like the Methil and Cople-drae beds, all of which he believed to be shales rather than coals.

On Tuesday, the 26th September, the discussion was resumed, after a paper, by Professor Balfour, 'On Spores found in Coals.' E. W. Binney, Esq., Professors Williamson and Morris, in turn corroborated various of the facts brought forward by Dr. Redfern on Friday, and all denied the correctness of the conclusion that coniferous wood enters at all largely into the composition of British coals.

*On the Vascular System of the Lower Annulosa.* By Thomas H. Huxley, F.R.S. Under the term Lower Annulosa, the author included the Annelida, the Echinoderms, the Trematoda, the Turbellaria, and the Rotifera, in all of which there exists a peculiar system of vessels which have hitherto been universally regarded as a blood vascular system. Without considering the correctness of the view which he was about to lay before the Section to be fully demonstrable, Mr. Huxley said that he had to offer very strong reasons for considering the prevalent ideas upon the subject to be incorrect. The vascular system of the higher Annulosa and of the Mollusca is, in all cases, a more or less specialised and segregated part of the common cavity of the body; the fluid which it contains is a corpusculated fluid; the propulsive organ of any special heart is a contractile one, connected by valvular apertures with that common cavity.

Now, although it might be incorrect to say that the vascular system of the lower Annelida is invariably distinguished by characters the opposite of these, still there is no question that, as a general rule, such is the case, and on these grounds alone grave doubts of the homology of these two systems must be entertained. These doubts are greatly strengthened by the following positive anatomical facts, which the author proceeded to lay before the Section.

In the *Rotifera* there exists a vascular system, consisting of certain canals, containing long vibratile cilia, and communicating with a contractile vesicle which opens externally.

In certain *Diatomata*, such as *Aspidogastro conchicola*, there is a system of vessels of essentially similar character, but the principal canals—those lateral trunks which come off directly from the contractile vesicle—present regular rhythmical contractions. In these no cilia exist, but the smaller secondary branches are all richly ciliated.

In other *Trematoda* the lateral trunks appear to be converted into excretory organs, as they are full of minute granules; they remain eminently contractile, but their connexion with the system of smaller ramified secondary vessels ceases to be readily demonstrable. They are really in communication, however, as Van Beneden and others have shown; but the cilia are no longer to be found in the secondary vascular branches, and sometimes appear to have vanished altogether, being, however, occasionally discoverable in the minute ultimate terminations of the vessels.

In certain *Hematoidea* (*Ascaris*, e.g.) the vascular system is reduced to a couple of lateral contractile vessels, altogether devoid of cilia, but opening externally by a small aperture.

Now there can be no doubt that in all these cases the "vascular system" is physiologically a respiratory system, while the common cavity of the body represents the blood-vascular system of the Mollusca and Articulata.

However, *Echinorhynchus* offers a vascular system which is of the same nature as that of a hemaloid, or distomatous worm, but presents no cilia, and does not communicate with the exterior, thus forming a closed vascular system, homologous with those previously described, and differing from them only in the fact of its closure. But from this to the often red vessels of the *Annelida* is a very natural transition, and the author stated his belief, based upon these and many other reasons, that these vessels and those of the *Echinodermata* form, in fact, only the final term of a series of which the so-called vascular system of the *Rotifera* is the commencement.

If, however, these vessels have in reality nothing to do with the proper blood-vessels of the higher *Annelosa*, with what system of organs are they homologous? In answer to this question, the author stated his belief that they correspond with the tracheæ of insects, &c. which, in the larvæ of the *Libellulida*, constitute a true closed system of vessels.

**Section B.**—The Chemical Section shared in the general prosperity of the Liverpool Meeting. Professor Miller of King's College, London, presided; and Professors Graham, Faraly, Anderson, and Williamson, and many other eminent chemists, were present, and took part in the proceedings. Interesting discussions enlivened the drier details of scientific research, and the photographers especially added to the attractiveness of the Section by displaying numerous specimens of the more remarkable productions of their art; so that, with the exception of Monday, which was devoted to analytical papers, the Section-room usually contained a fair proportion of the crowds that flocked to St. George's Hall.

Two reports which had been called for by the Association were presented, and read on the first day of business. One was by Professor Hodges of Belfast, 'On the Gases evolved in Steeping Flax, and on the Composition of the Fibre of Flax as prepared for Textile Purposes,' being a continuation of his former researches on that most important

manufacture of the north of Ireland. The other was Dr. Gladstone's second report 'On the Influence of the Solar Radiation on the Vital Powers of Plants Growing under Different Atmospheric Conditions.' The author described a series of experiments on hyacinths, grown under large colourless blue, red, yellow, obscured colourless, and obscured yellow glasses, and in perfect darkness, and another on the germination of peas and wheat under the same varied influences of light, solar heat, and chemical agency. The effects were very marked, and differed greatly on the different kinds of plants, but the cutting off of the chemical rays was found to facilitate the process of germination in each case, and that both in reference to the protrusion of the radicles and the evolution of the plume. The lengthy report concluded with observations on the germination of the same plants in oxygen, hydrogen, carbonic acid, and different atmospheric mixtures.

Dr. Anderson of Glasgow was the only member of the Section who read papers belonging to pure descriptive chemistry. He brought forward one relating to the organic bases found among the constituents of opium; and another on those produced by the destructive distillation of animal substances. The Professor also read a paper by Mr. How, describing the hyposulphites of the organic alkalies. Such papers, however important in themselves, are much better fitted for the regular scientific societies than for the British Association, the members of which must be considered, not as thorough chemists, but rather as persons attached to the study of science in general, and especially capable of appreciating the practical applications of it. It was this applied chemistry which occupied nearly all the attention of Section B; and thus the physician, the metallurgist, the calico printer, the provision merchant, and the agriculturist, could all find something that had relation to their several pursuits. Mineralogy, galvanic electricity, and photography, all of which are dependant on chemical agencies, are also claimed by the same Section.

On the first day, Dr. Turnbull, of the Liverpool Infirmary, related the results of his observations on the physiological properties of the acetate and iodide of methyle, the same compounds of amyle, and the same of ethyle, with the addition of the bromide and cyanide. The amyle compounds appeared to be inapplicable to medicine on account of their irritating properties; the cyanide was too poisonous; but his researches tended to show that iodine in combination with the organic radicles produced its usually beneficial outward effects, and that the volatile property it acquired by such combinations enabled it to be introduced into the system through the lungs, upon which the author believed such compounds had a remedial action in certain cases. Some of them also act as anæsthetics. On another occasion, Mr. F. Grace Calvert exhibited specimens of carbazotic acid, and described its powerful tonic properties.

Mr. Hamilton detailed a series of experiments on the preservation of meat, to which he had found binoxide of nitrogen and carbonic oxide applicable. Unfortunately the results were not very satisfactory. Much more promising was some milk exhibited by the Abbé Moigno, who stated that in France they are now in the habit of filling iron bottles with leaden necks with milk at the boiling point, by means of a trough, and then pinching the neck a little below the top, so as to close it completely; by which means every trace of air is excluded, and the milk or cream will keep for a long period. That handed round the room was six months old, and had the flavour and appearance of fresh boiled milk. Mr. Calvert, in a paper 'On the Action of Gallic and Tannic Acids on Iron and Alumina Mordants,' drew the following conclusions among others;—that it is tannic acid which produces the black colour with iron mordants; that gallic acid does not do so on account of its reducing the peroxide; that gallic acid has the property of dissolving alumina mordants; and that extracts of tannin lose their dyeing properties by being transformed into gallic acid. Mr. Calvert also explained the corrosive action of various or-

ganic acids on cotton and flax fibres, under certain conditions. Dr. David S. Price read a communication of interest to all those engaged in the iron manufacture, in which he gave his experience in reference to the supposed influence of hot blasting in augmenting the quantity of phosphorus, and strongly recommended the use of the hot blast in the production of pig-iron. Some time was also devoted to papers respecting sewerage and the consumption of smoke, and other matters connected with the arts and manufactures; nor was the consideration of technical chemistry confined to the Section-room, for the members of the Association had an admirable opportunity, on the excursion day, of becoming acquainted with some of the largest manufactories at St. Helens; these of plate, crown, sheet, and coloured glass, carbonated alkalies, and the smelting of lead and silver.

## VARIETIES.

**The Chantrey Memorial.**—Of the many sites in England which, from having given birth to eminent persons, have become charmed ground, the pleasant village of Norton, about four miles south of Sheffield, is not the least famous. Here Francis Liggitt Chantrey was born, on the 7th April, 1781. His parents' rank in life was humble; and that young Chantrey at one period carried milk from Newton to Sheffield is certain, though it has been added, he not only lingered on the road to form grotesque figures of the yellow clay, but moulded his mother's butter on churning days with resemblances of various objects, to the great admiration of the dairy-maid. John Raphael Smith, the mezzotinto engraver and portrait painter, was the first to perceive and appreciate Chantrey's devotion to the study and practice of drawing and modelling, when he was an apprentice to a carver and gilder at Sheffield. How Chantrey came to London in 1802, and then began to labour at sculpture, in which he never had an hour's instruction from any sculptor; how Chantrey laboured for eight years without making five pounds in his profession; yet how he got £12,000 worth of commissions from his plaster model bust of Horne Tooke, which he sent to the Exhibition of the Royal Academy, but which neither he nor Horne Tooke could afford to make in marble, the sculptor himself has left on record. Commissions flowed in; Chantrey raised his price from eighty guineas to two hundred guineas for a bust; and his marble progeny of statues people our cathedrals and public institutions with the truthful works of his genius, the long line closing with the statues of Bishop Bathurst and Bishop Ryder, for their respective cathedrals of Norwich and Litchfield, the last he lived to adorn. Chantrey returned to London from erecting the statue at Norwich the day before his sudden death, November 25th, 1841.—The sculptor had willed that his mortal remains should be laid in his native village of Norton, and here he had built himself a vault at the south-west end of the church in 1840. The influential persons of the neighbourhood came to do honour to his remains; and in the funeral procession were the Master Cutler of Sheffield, and the Members of the Company, the Town Trustees, and other authorities. Years rolled on; and England was justly proud of Chantrey, who, in the expressive words of Allan Cunningham, "formed his taste on no style but that of nature, and no work of any age or country, but his own, can claim back any inspiration which they have lent him." It was fitting that such purely English genius should be commemorated, and where so appropriately as in the picturesque place of burial, the village churchyard of Norton? Accordingly, an obelisk has been raised upon Norton Green, a short distance from the church: it is twenty-two feet in height, consisting of one block, three feet square at its base; its weight is nine tons, exclusive of the foundation. The material is grey granite, "fine axed" from the quarries of Mr. G. Tregelles, Cheesewring, Cornwall. The design is by Mr. Philip Hardwick, R.A., and is one of charac-

teristic simplicity: the only inscription it bears is the name *Chantry*. The obelisk has been erected under the superintendence of Mr. Edwin Smith, of the Sheffield Marble Works.—*Illustrated London News*.

**Publishers' Puffs.**—The way in which critical opinions are misquoted in advertisements—so as to preserve the words whilst violating the spirit of the opinion pronounced—is an old grievance against certain bibliopoles. If a man could only make criticisms for himself,—how easy it would be to have all his books great, eloquent, fascinating, and original! Some of our bibliopoles, we notice, are timidly venturing on this path. A bookseller in Holborn, whose name we refrain from printing in the hope of his amendment, supplies opinions to his books, old and new, many of which, from the warmth of their appreciation and the elegance of their style, must astonish his readers. A few specimens may be given. Here is a criticism on *Akenside's 'Pleasures of Imagination'*:—"Admirable to form the style, no works have more classic air, full of enthusiasm for treasures of Greek and Roman Literature, their Laws, Arts, Liberty, joining keen discriminating spirit of Metaphysics and taste for Moral Beauty."—The work so praised is to be had for the paltry sum of 2s. When the work rises in price, the energy of the critic knows no bounds. Take the following as an example:—"Poli Synopsis, Critic, aliorumq. S. Script. Interpet." "Most elaborate, stupendous work, fruit of ten years' labour, consolidates, concentrates, admirably arranges the Critici Sacri and other authors with the later criticisms, great skill, truly Evangelical." But then the 'Synopsis' sells at 4l. 10s.—Pope seems to be a favourite with our tremendous critic, as the following article will show. "Pope, Works." "Much wisdom, consummate beauty," "most correct writer since Dryden, none more fortunate in poetical subjects, condensation of thought, ease, beauty." When the bibliopole comes to speak of Pope as a translator of Homer, he is equally emphatic,—"Even the *highest branches* of the original receive additional lustre from this admirable translator." What may be the "highest branches" of Homer we will not venture to inquire. Mr. Prout is also a favourite in Holborn. With a confusion of persons and tenses which is touching in its artlessness, we are instructed that—"The universal popularity of this Artist's style, its Force, Breadth, Freedom, and Peculiarity of his Touch, render his works peculiarly valuable." Of Raynal's 'Histoire des Indes,' we are informed—"It tells one everything in the world, how to make conquests, invasions, blunders, natural, *historical history*, of all nations, spritual cleverness."—What "historical history" may mean—why a book should be praised for telling us "how to make blunders"—we are at a loss to conceive. This critic needs a gloss. A copy of Quarles's 'Emblems' is labelled—"Much genuine fire, happy smiles, admirable epithets, compound words, smooth versification." But the climax of sublime obscurity is only reached in the note to 'Don Quixote,' which runs mad as follows:—"Motteux's excellent translation of this 'immortal work,' retains all the point, humour, pathos, without prolixities and improprieties, with Life, 'one of books above all others, to be read and studied, both for its amusement, with which it abounds, still more for the picture it affords of the true Christian gentleman, virtue, imagination, genius, kind feeling, brave, faithful, elevated soul, affectionate heart, teaching us that this is a world of action, not fancy, our duties around and within us.'—Voltaire's simple "law" of criticism, to write "fine," "excellent," "gorgeous," "piquant," and so forth, opposite every work, is here taken up and distanced. "Virtue, imagination, genius, brave, faithful, elevated soul,"—seldom have we seen so absolute a defiance of logic, sense and moderation—even among venders of scents, blacking, and invisible perukes—as in these puffs by a publisher.—*Athenæum*.

# UNITED KINGDOM LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY, 8, Waterloo Place, Pall Mall, London.

The FOURTEENTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of the Company—being in the twenty-first year of its existence—was held at the Head Office, No. 8, Waterloo Place, Pall Mall, London, on Friday, July 14, 1851.

CHARLES GRAHAM, Esq., F.S.A., in the Chair.  
Statements of accounts from the formation of the Company down to the 31st December last, were laid before the meeting, from which the following is abstracted:—  
That during the year ending 31st December, 1850, 418 new policies have been issued, assuring £251,188, and yielding, in annual premiums, a sum of £13,935 18s. 5d.  
That the yearly income exceeds £123,660.  
That the property of the Company, as at 31st December last, amounts to £183,398 16s. 11d.  
That the sum assured by each policy from the commencement averages £724 19s.  
That 89 policies on 67 lives have become claims in 1850, on which £63,273 6s. 4d. has been paid; and  
That since the Company commenced business in 1834, 8,293 policies have been issued in all, of which 3,739 have lapsed, surrendered, or become claims.  
3rd order of the Board, PATRICK MACINTYRE, Sec.

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The Annual General Meeting of this Society was held on the 30th May, 1851, when a Report of the business for the last year was presented, exhibiting a statement of most satisfactory progress. It appeared that the Assurances in 1850 considerably exceeded those effected in any previous year, the number of Policies issued being more than 100, and the annual income thereon being upwards of £7500. It also appeared that, except in 1849, when the visitation of the cholera took place, the claims arising from deaths were, in every year, much below their estimated amount.  
The Members present at the Meeting were fully satisfied with the Report, and resolved unanimously that a Reduction of 3 1/4 per Cent. should be made in the current year's Premium, payable by all Policy-holders now entitled to participate in the Profits.  
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25	1000	25 13 4	8 1 8	17 11 8
30	1000	33 18 4	10 13 8	23 4 8
35	1000	44 16 8	13 7 8	31 9 0
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SHIRLEY WOOLMER, ESQ.  
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#### Honorary Secretary.

MAJOR THE HON. HENRY LITTLETON POWYS, 60th Royal Rifles.

#### Assistant Secretary.

FREDERICK HAYLEY BELL, ESQ.

The following Report was unanimously passed at a General Committee Meeting, on the 3rd of October, 1854,  
The Right Hon. EARL OF EFFINGHAM in the Chair.

### FIRST HALF-YEARLY REPORT OF THE CENTRAL ASSOCIATION.

THIS Association originated at the National Club on the 24th of February, 1854, and was joined on the 25th February by a Deputation from the Army and Navy Clubs.

It was formally instituted at a public meeting held in Willis's Rooms on the 7th March, 1854, (the late deeply lamented General Sir Peregrine Maitland, G.C.B., in the chair), and has now completed the first half-year of its operations.

The vast amount of undeserved misery that this Association has been the means of alleviating during the past six months, induces the Committee to make a half-yearly Report of their proceedings; and this, not only to show that the noble effort made by the country on behalf of the silent sufferers has not been a fruitless one; but also to direct public attention to the urgent and absolute necessity for the establishment of some permanent National Provision for the Wives and Families, Widows and Orphans, of our soldiers.

Notwithstanding all that has been said and written on the subject, the fact still remains in all its sadness, that for the wife and family, widow and orphan, of our best-behaved soldiers, whether non-commissioned officer or private, no provision whatever is made. Nothing but private charity keeps them from pauperism when their husbands and fathers are taken away.

The marriage of these good men is fully permitted by military authority; it is even granted as a reward for good conduct, and yet, should they be ordered to the seat of war, or die in the service of their country, their families are cast aside in utter destitution and desolation.

To prove that this is no over-statement, the Committee have selected a few cases out of hundreds, all of which are those of wives of non-commissioned officers and privates, who, having been married with military sanction and approval, had been placed on the strength of the regiment.

CASE 490, Mrs. B.—Wife of a sergeant of the 38th. Married with five children. Left destitute with 6 children after she had spent the small sum her husband left for her. Five of her children provided for; the sixth being an infant, and the mother being weakly, she received a weekly allowance of five shillings until she obtained work as a washerwoman, for which the Association furnished the means, and she now earns her own livelihood, assisted by her two boys, aged 12 and 13, for whom situations as pages have been found.

Mrs. E. F., 8th Hussars.—A most respectable person, married with leave, in delicate health. Left destitute with 6 children. Earns a little by washing, for which a donation of 2l. was granted. A weekly allowance of seven shillings.

CASE 435, Mrs. W. H. R.—Wife of a private, 13th Light Dragoons. Married with leave, left destitute with 4 children. A most respectable person. A situation as cook obtained for her, and all her children provided for.

CASE 73, Mrs. S. J. G.—Wife of a sergeant in the 21st Regt. Married with leave. Left destitute with 4 children, and expecting her confinement. A weekly allowance of five shillings, in addition to the parish out-door relief of three shillings a-week and four loaves.

CASE 460, Mrs. W.—Wife of a lance-sergeant in the 6th Dragoons. Married with leave. Left destitute with 3 children, and expecting her confinement. A weekly allowance till she became a widow, when she was granted 80l., and one of her three children provided for by the Birmingham Local Committee.

CASE 193, Mrs. E. R.—Wife of a private in the 38th Regt. Married with leave. Left destitute with 4 children. One child provided for, and a weekly allowance of seven shillings a-week.

CASE 284, Mrs. A. F.—Wife of a private in the 74th Regt. Married with leave. Left destitute with 5 children. A weekly allowance of ten shillings.

CASE 433, 38th Regiment.—Mrs. A., the wife of a sergeant. Married with leave. Left destitute with 4 children. Has been provided with a situation at 14s. a year, and all her children taken care of by the Association.

Mrs. E. F., 63rd Regiment.—Married with leave. Sixteen years wife of a private. Left destitute with 3 children. A weekly allowance of seven shillings.

Mrs. E. T., 46th Regiment.—Married with leave. Left destitute with 5 children under ten years of age, unable to leave her infant. A weekly allowance of seven shillings.

Mrs. T. L., 26th Regiment.—Married with leave. Wife of a sergeant. Left with 5 children. Her husband left her some little money and his watch, to part with in case of need. The watch had been parted with, when this Association helped her out of all her troubles, and she regularly receives money from her husband.

Mrs. E. B., case 321.—Wife of a private, 88th Regt. Married with leave. Left perfectly destitute with 5 children. The two youngest (twins) born since her husband left. In very bad health since her confinement. A weekly allowance of twelve shillings.

CASES Nos. 406, 407, 408.—The wives of privates of the 55th.

All married with leave. Left destitute with 10 children. A weekly allowance to each.

CASE No. 908, Mrs. C. B.—Wife of a private, Royal Artillery. Married with leave. Left destitute with 6 children in great distress. A weekly allowance granted.

CASE 971, Mrs. A. C.—Wife of a sergeant of the 38th Regt. Married with leave. Left destitute with 6 children. A weekly allowance of twelve shillings.

CASE 592, Mrs. T.—Wife of a sergeant of the 11th Hussars. Married with leave. Left with 6 children. Eldest daughter provided with a situation, and a weekly allowance of ten shillings to her mother.

This dreary catalogue of destitution might be continued almost to an endless extent, and all the harrowing details accompanying each case might be given; but the Committee are satisfied that a simple statement of these facts is more than sufficient to prove the need for, and the reality of their work. It is true that the parish of the soldier may be compelled to support his wife and family; but the Committee would ask whether the workhouse is a fitting place for the families of men who can write such letters as the following:—

"CAMP NEAR Varna, August 30th, 1854.  
"SIR,—I sincerely trust that I may not offend you by the liberty I take in addressing you; but having heard of your kindness to the wives and children of soldiers now serving in Turkey, I am induced to request your kind assistance on behalf of my little daughter. By the last mail from England I received the melancholy intelligence of my wife's death, which occurred on the 9th of August, leaving my little girl entirely unprotected for, &c. I therefore humbly hope that you will kindly cause inquiries to be made, so that my child may not be left entirely unprotected and uncared for. I will most gladly contribute, as far as my means will admit, to defray any expense which may arise in placing her in any establishment which you select. We expect to embark for Sebastopol to-morrow; consequently I feel very anxious that some steps may be immediately taken to provide for her.  
"I remain, Sir,  
"Most respectfully,  
"G. H., Sergeant."

"To Major the Hon. H. L. Powys, 60th Reg. Rifles, Hon. Sec."  
The wife and child of this non-commissioned officer were entirely supported by the Association until his wife died of cholera in London. His daughter is now comfortably settled at the Industrial School at Birmingham, at the expense of the Association; and when thoroughly trained and educated, will be provided with a situation by the managers of the Industrial School.



deu. Many were on the eve of confinement. Their only resource would have been to become paupers on the parish, and their only asylum would have been the workhouse. A generous provision on the part of a grateful country for the wives and families of those on whom they depended, under God, for a successful issue of the war in which we have been compelled to engage has prevented this. But suppose this had not been the case, how hardly would the maintenance of so many have pressed upon the poor-rate payers; and in many instances how unfairly! Take Woolwich, for instance, and the case would be similar with respect to all garrison towns. We have upwards of 200 women, besides their children, to be maintained somehow. I think it quite possible that the burden would have been felt so heavily, that a memorial might have been sent to the Government. But however this might be, the expense would have been unfairly thrown upon parishes such as our own; but this is a trifling matter when compared with the pauperization of respectable soldiers of our army.

HENRY BROWN,

Rectory of Woolwich.

#### Extract from the Report of the Dublin Local Committee:—

"SEPTEMBER 4th, 1854.  
"I find that since the 1st July to the 2nd instant, I have made 3,400 payments (in small sums, varying from one shilling to one pound five shillings); to about 100 women, soldiers' wives. We have granted several women free passages to their friends and relatives, released clothes from pawn-offices for women going into situations, sent up numbers in a small way of business, defrayed the funeral expenses of a few children, and in numerous other ways have been the means of conferring substantial benefits upon these poor people, &c. Had it not been for the small weekly payments, the majority would have been in the poor-house. Many women, although they only received 3d. a week, were thus kept going, and encouraged to value themselves and their children, &c."

"CHARLES HORT,  
"Senior Garrison Chaplain, and Honorary Secretary to Committee."

#### Extract from the Report of another Local Committee:—

"We have hardly relieved any that were not married with leave on the strength of the money aid rendered by your Society much distress was of course prevented, as, as soon as they were left, your excellent Society took them by the hand. But timely as this aid was offered, it was not before, in many cases, the poor creature had parted with nearly everything, &c. &c. in two cases to raise a mortgage-charge. What would have been the condition of these poor creatures if no such society as yours had existed? many of them far too high spirited to have become the inmates of a workhouse, would have been plunged into the misery fearful to contemplate. But even as it is, much misery is to be found. A poor delicate creature with two children, married with leave, to whom your Society grants a weekly allowance, has been compelled to part with her furniture. So distressing is this woman's case, and so respectable a mother does she appear, that some of the other women have helped her out of their own small pittance, &c. Every day I feel more thankful for the good your Society is doing; upwards of 30 are receiving help from you at this place. I only wish those who have contributed large sums to your Society could witness the gratitude of these poor women for the help they receive, they would indeed feel more than repaid for all they have done."

#### SOLDIERS' WIVES AT VARNA.

Mr. Ray, formerly the active and intelligent Inspecting Officer of this Association, writes from Varna to the following effect:—

"VARNA, AUGUST 4th, 1854.

"SIR,—I beg to draw your attention to the condition of the poor women here. Many of them have died and others are dying; others who are in a state of convalescence, are not able to proceed further with their Regiments, and the poor creatures, emaciated and dried with the sun, will be left in a foreign land without any protection or home where they can go. What I thought of was, to provide a house and food for such as have none; most of them have blankets, but to those who have not, I would propose lending them some, and to encourage those who are able to get about to wait on the sick, cook, and wash. If your Committee is pleased to approve of this plan, I shall be most happy to superintend the whole matter, and I am quite sure it would relieve many a poor wretch of his anxiety. The cold winter will be soon setting in, then what will these poor women do? If the ladies of England would send us a little flannel, a few blankets, and left-off garments, they would be rendering us a great service. The great want is that is going on for the wives and families of the soldiers by means of the Association in which you take so prominent and energetic a part, causes abundant joy to the husbands and fathers here; and when I remind them of what is doing, they seem overjoyed, and many thanks are expressed both to yourself, and the Committee, and the deaths from cholera and fevers, and doubtless many who are cared for by your Association are really widows, but news of the fact may not have reached them. They have not yet entered the field, but every day the order for embarkation for the Crimea is expected, where doubtless many will fall, and these poor fellows have their eyes upon your Association to protect their wives and children. I am happy to say I have been well received by the men generally: to point them to the 'Lamb of God that taketh away the sin of the world' is my constant work, and to tell them of the great work going on in England for the good of those they have left behind is in perfect keeping; it is indeed good news. The poor women who have followed their husbands to this place are in a most pitiable condition, and when the expedition sails for the Crimea, they will be left here. Would that we had an Association here for these poor objects! Varna is in perfect confusion; how could it be otherwise with such a congregation of nations, here, wild, desperate-looking fellows, armed to the teeth, and anxiously waiting for the signal to summon them to the fight. May you long be spared in your glorious work, of all works the most enviable, to care for the poor, &c. &c."

Immediately on the receipt of these letters the Committee met, and decided that a donation of blankets, shawls, &c. &c. should immediately be sent to Varna, and the sum of 100l. should be granted for the use of these women. On the 1st September goods to the amount of 34l. were sent by steam to Constantinople, addressed to the General-in-Chief, General, who was requested to use his discretion in forwarding them to Varna. A bill of exchange for 100l. was also sent to the same authority, with instructions and authority to Mr. Ray, to act as the almoner of the Association. Private letters received by the Committee fully corroborate the fact of the distress of these poor women, for though they receive what are called rations, no other female comforts can be provided for them.

Thus it will be seen that the sum of Nine Thousand one hundred and seventy-two Pounds have already been spent in actual relief for Widows as well as Wives within the space of Six Months, and that at the trifling outlay of a little more than 3 per cent., the sum of £50,269 17s. 7d. has been raised.

Annual Subscriptions are solicited towards the formation of a National Fund for Widows and Orphans.

London: Printed for Lovell Reeve, of 5, Henrietta Street, Covent Garden, in the County of Middlesex (at the Office of Messrs. Savill and Edwards, No. 4, Chandos Street, Covent Garden, aforesaid), and published by him at his Office, 5, Henrietta Street, Covent Garden.—Saturday, October 7, 1854.

#### "CAMP NEAR VARNA, AUGUST 24th, 1854.

"DEAREST,—Yours dated August 3rd came to hand on the 16th. I have received all your letters except one. You tell me, my dear, that seven shillings a week was what you received from the Association; and although that is a mere trifle in a place like London, yet we ought to be very thankful for it. You say you deeply regret you did not go with me; indeed, my dear wife, much as I desire to be with you, I think it one of the most providential things ever happened for you to be where you are, instead of being here, badly off, as you are now, you would be utterly miserable here. We have lost already two married men of cholera. I sleep in the staff tent ever since I got better of the cholera. Everything is enormously high here; a mouthful of white bread and cheese for supper costs 5d. One thing lately we can always get, a pint of ale for 2d. or porter 1d.; in fact, it is the only thing we relish; for the bread is very bad, and we get nothing but the nasty beef, which we cannot eat, but boil down and make soup of. I get, as I said before, 1s. 10d. a-day pay. Out of this, 4d. is stopped for rations, and 3d. a-day for mess money; so that by the time I pay for something fit to eat, there is not much left; still I shall, please God, and you all I can, &c. The women here have no way of making money by washing, the water is too far off, &c."

"I am sorry to say I have been very ill, and it is as if the best for me to let you know the whole truth, I must inform you that I have had the cholera; I was very bad while it lasted, but thank the God of all goodness for his great mercy, He has restored me. The doctors have been very kind indeed to me; everything I could wish for was got for me; almost all the officers and the colonel came to me and inquired about me constantly. Poor L. M. S. M., and E., and Mrs. L., have all died since my last; also J. R. and S. F. Indeed, my dearest wife, I rely in perfect confidence in my Redeemer, and feel myself quite unworthy of His mercy; and during the worst of my illness, I felt humbled before him in whom alone my salvation is sure. Your ever-loving husband, E. R."

The wife of the writer of this letter (a most excellent non-commissioned officer) was left nearly destitute with 5 young children; she bears a most irreproachable character, and is most anxious to exert herself to obtain her own livelihood; but what can she do with 5 young children? Her two eldest girls are entirely provided for by the Association, and she receives a weekly allowance of seven shillings.

The Committee perceive with pleasure that the authorities are gradually sending them home from the East. Three arrivals of soldiers' families have already been brought before the Committee, for so soon as they land than they apply to the Association, and it is needless to add how readily their application is always responded to.

#### WIDOWS AND ORPHANS.

The first efforts of this Association were limited to the immediate relief of the Wives of Soldiers ordered on active service, who in consequence of their having families, were left behind utterly destitute of all means of existence, save the temporary out-door parish relief. But time the time the sword and the pestilence have too fatally done their sad work, and many of these poor people have become more hopelessly destitute by the death of their husbands.

The Committee, however, encouraged by the magnificent contributions received from all parts of the world, have found themselves in a position to make the following scale of donations for Widows, which is the same that was adopted by the administrators of the Waterloo Fund, in 1815:—

Unanimously resolved:—That relief in the shape of a donation not exceeding the undermentioned sums, being the same as agreed to by the Waterloo Committee on the 26th of June, 1815, be adopted as a scale for the Widows of non-commissioned Officers and Soldiers now serving against Russia.

#### Scale of Donation for Widows with Children dependent for Support.

RANK.	Without Children.	One.	Two.	Three.	Four.	Five.	Six.	Seven.	Eight.
SERGEANT MAJOR . . .	90	100	£ 15	£ 15	£ 15	£ 15	£ 15	£ 15	£ 20
SERGEANT . . . . .	60	80	90	100	105	120	130	140	160
CORPORAL . . . . .	45	60	70	75	80	90	100	110	120
DRUMMER . . . . .	35	45	50	55	60	70	75	80	90
PRIVATE . . . . .	30	40	45	50	55	60	65	70	80

#### Dr. BALANCE SHEET. Cr.

1854.	£	s.	d.	1854.	£	s.	d.
Sept. 7. To Amount of Subscriptions received in the Half-Year ending 7th September, 1854, from the formation of this Association on the 7th March . . . . .	80,269	17	7	Sept. 7. By Exchequer Bills deposited in the Bank of England in the names of the Trustees, (viz.) Sir John Kirkland, Lord Henry Cholmondeley, M.P., and Major the Honourable H. L. Powys . . . . .	65,566	9	4
				(Of which £50,000 will be applied to relieve Widows and Orphans.)			
				By Relief, distributed through Local Associations . . . . .	6,309	11	4
				By ditto, distributed at Head Office in London . . . . .	1,189	10	0
				By ditto, distributed through Clergymen, Magistrates, and others . . . . .	2,681	7	6
				By Advertisements . . . . .	1,702	12	2
				By Office Expenses, Printing, Stationery, Wages, Rent, &c. . . . .	719	19	1
				By Payments to the Sailors' Association By BALANCE (viz.) . . . . .	100	0	0
				In the hands of the Honorary Secretary . . . . .	£ 311	9	0
				At Bankers, 7th Sept. 1854, 2,603	6	0	
					2,914	15	11
				These Accounts Examined and Audited, GEORGE W. BELL, Auditor to the Association.			
					£50,269	17	7

"INGESTRE," Chairman.

JOHN LETTSOM ELLIOT,  
HENRY LITTLETON POWYS,  
Members of the Finance Committee.

"A Pension may be granted, in the place of the whole or part of such Donation, should it appear expedient to the Committee."

Of Widows the Association has already 64 in their books, and of Orphans 108.

The following letter shows that for the Widows of those brave men who perished with their Colonels in the *Europe transport*, ample provision was made, and that the measures adopted for their relief have fully satisfied the Officer commanding the depot of the Enniskillings:—

"CANTERBURY BARRACKS, JULY 10th, 1854.  
"SIR,—I have the honour to acknowledge, with many thanks, the receipt of your memorandum detailing the amount of the donations granted by the Association of which you are the Honorary Secretary, to the widows and orphans of the five non-commissioned officers and men of the Enniskilling Dragoons who were lost in the *Europe transport*.

"The ready and liberal aid thus sent to their relief, will, I trust, be effectual to alleviate in some degree their distress, and it marks, too, in a way for which I am most grateful, how deeply the Committee of your admirable Association appreciate the heavy and noble conduct of those who stood by their Colonels to the last."

"Sure I am, from private accounts which I have received, that had all on board done their duty as manfully as those who perished, there would not have been a life lost in the *Europe*."

"I have not failed to communicate to the officer commanding the regiment in Turkey the liberality with which the Association have met my application for assistance to the surviving families by a grant of 412l."

"I am glad, too, to express my sense of the admirable arrangements of the Society by which the distribution of this sum has been entrusted to the persons best able to judge of the most judicious means of administering, in each individual case, to the permanent relief of the sufferers."

"I have the honour to be, Sir,  
"Your obedient Servant,  
"F. W. FITZ-WYGRAM, Captain,  
"Commanding Depot Enniskilling Dragoon."

"Major Hon. H. L. Powys, Hon. Sec.  
CASE 1,540, W. T.—A boy of the 33rd Regiment, whose father and mother both died of cholera in Turkey; a most distressing case. A weekly allowance granted to the orphan's grandfather, with whom the boy was left.

For the five widows and children of the 6th Enniskilling, annuities have been purchased, large sums having been subscribed for them in addition to the grant from this Association, the amount will render them independent for their lives.

For the other widows, donations varying from 30s. to 100s. have been granted immediately on the receipt of official notice of their husbands' death. Most of them were already on the books of the Association, and had been receiving relief for some time. It is proposed to grant them an annual pension as long as they remain Widows, and the resources of the Association continue available.

#### CONCLUDING REMARKS.

Effectually to prevent the recurrence of such distressing cases as these which gave rise to the formation of this Association, the Committee have had in consideration a plan which it is hoped might tend materially to raise the condition of the soldier's wife, and secure a provision for the soldier's widow.

As there is no probability, under existing circumstances, of raising the pay of the soldier as to enable him when married to apportion a sufficient share of it to his family while he is on active service, the Committee are of opinion that a National Fund should be established, of which the invested capital of this Association should be the foundation, and to which the public and the Legislature should be invited to subscribe annually.

This fund to provide pensions for widows and orphans, as well as temporary assistance to wife and family who, having been subscribers, may be ordered on active service.

The exact subscription which the soldier would be called upon to pay must depend on the amount of public support the National Fund may receive;—it may always be a very small sum from the soldier; but the Committee are convinced that the country will approve of this proposed attempt to encourage habits of order and prudent foresight amongst the married soldiers of the British army.

By order of the Committee,

HENRY LITTLETON POWYS, Major 60th Royal Rifles, Hon. Sec.

September 7th, 1854.